



Hopi Tribal Budget Oversight Team Hosts Hopi Village & Community Presentations on the 2023 General Funding Budget Process



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Picture by Romalita Laban/HT

2022 Hopi High School Varsity Basketball...



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LARRY'S CORNER

Is it Spring Time yet?

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Hopi Tutuveni Free

Hopi Tribal Council Meets with Hotevilla Village members regarding issues and updates

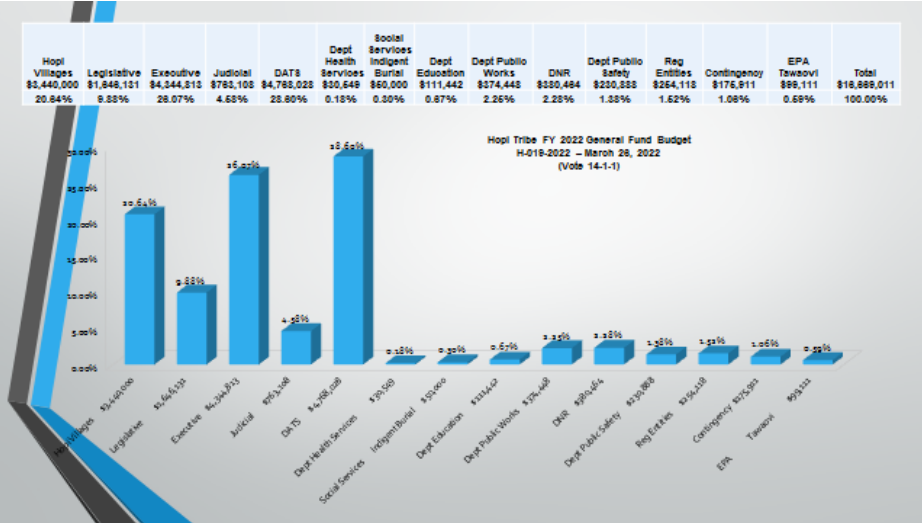


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Hopi Tribal Budget Oversight Team Hosts Hopi Village & Community Presentations on the 2023 General Funding Budget Process



All pictures by Romalita Laban/HT

By: Romalita Laban, Managing Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – Friday, May 13, 2022 ended the week during which the Hopi Tribal Budget Oversight Team (BOT) hosted three Hopi Village & Community Presentations on the 2023 General Funding budget process.

Below is list of dates, times and locations during which the BOT presented:

First Mesa Villages (Walpi, Sichomovi, Tewa, Polacca and Spider Mound) presentation was held on Monday May 9, 2022 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the First Mesa Youth Center, located in Lower Polacca, Ariz.

Second Mesa Villages (Sipaulovi, Mishungnovi and Shungopavi) presentation was held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Sipaulovi Elderly/Youth Center, located in the Lower Sipaulovi Village Housing and Administration Office compound in Second Mesa, Ariz.

Third Mesa Villages (Bacavi, Hotevilla,

Kykotsmovi and Oraibi) presentation was held on May 11, 2022 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Bacavi Community Center located in the Village of Bacavi on Third Mesa, Ariz.

Hopi Tutuveni was present at the Second Mesa Villages and Third Mesa Villages presentation with plans for attending the Moenkopi Villages (Upper and Lower) presentation scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2022 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Lower Moencopi Community Center in the Village of Lower Moencopi.

CDC procedures were adhered to at the presentations observed. For further details, about the presentation the public has been notified to call (928) 734-3461.

Hopi Tutuveni will be providing a follow up article regarding information presented and provided to the public at all presentations and for now is providing depictions of attending participants and a few slides and information provided.

SURVEY – Hopi Budget Oversight Team (BOT) Village Presentations – May 2021

To help develop the Hopi Tribe’s 2023 General Fund budget process, BOT is seeking inputs or comments from the general public. Your participation is very crucial to determine the best method to plan a recommended budget for approval by the Hopi Tribal Council. Please answer questions and provide input below.

1. Village affiliation: _____.
2. List five “essential services” you feel are your Village’s priority?
(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____
(5) _____
3. Provide input and/or comments for both BOT and Hopi Tribal Council.

BOT thanks you for providing your comments and input.



Hopi Tribal Council 2nd Quarter Session

March 1, 2022 Month of May 2022

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. Discussion/Possible Action – Letter dated July 30, 2021 Re: Request to rescind Executive Order #011-2021 and directs the Drought Task Team to reach out to Hopi ranchers and Navajo Accommodation Agreement signers to work on identifying alternatives for addressing drought issues on Hopi lands. / Letter dated August 16, 2021 Re: Executive Order #011-2021 Range Mitigation and Live-stock Reduction – Albert T. Siquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages – TABLED
- 2. Action Item #006-2022 – Approval to incorporate quarters #169 and #170 into the Moencopi Day School P.L. 100 - 297 Tribally Controlled School Grant – Author/ David Talayumptewa – Tribal Council Representative, Village of Kykotsmovi – TABLED
- 3. Discussion of a motion to vacate judgment in the Flagstaff v. Hopi Tribe case – Fred Lomayesva, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel - TABLED

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Action Item #042-2022 – Hopi School System’s Hopi Board of Education submits its adopted Bylaws to the Hopi Tribal Council for approval – Author/LeRoy Shingoitewa, Chairperson, Hopi School System Hopi Board of Education - **Time Certain – May 3, 2022 – 1:00 p.m."
- 2. Action Item #043-2022 – To provide Hopi Tribal Council consent to a new 2.0± acre Sublease between the Bureau of Indian Affairs Hopi Agency, as Sublessor, and the Hopi Tribe Board of Education, as Sublessee, on the existing Hopi Junior Senior High School BIA Leasehold #608-13-00 for the Hopi School System Central Administration Office modular and appurtenances – Author/Mi-

cah Loma’omvaya, Realty Officer, Hopi Office of Real Estate Services

- 3. Action Item #044-2022 – Approval of the FY 2022 – 2026 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP) – Author/Michael Lomayaktewa, Director, Hopi Department of Transportation
- 4. Action Item #045-2022 – Intergovernmental Agreement between the Hopi Tribe and the Northern Arizona Council of Governments – Author/Donovan Gomez, Transit Administrator
- 5. Action Item #046-2022 – Pandemic Emergency Assistance Funds – Author/Elizabeth Nasewytewa, Supervisor, Hopi Family Assistance Program
- 6. Initial discussions and to obtain directions to formulate the FY 2023 General Fund budget development and to request Tribal Council to appoint a representative to Budget Oversight Team – Eugene Talas, Chairperson, Budget Oversight Team - **Time Certain – May 3, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.
- 7. Presentation on Arizona Public Service (APS) elec-trification census work – Janet Dean, Public Affairs Manager, APS Northeast Division - **Time Certain – May 4, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
- 8. Presentation of Blue Stone proposal on ARPA Planning and Implementation Process – Jamie Fuller, Chair-man/CEO, Blue Stone Strategy Group - **Time Certain – May 23, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
- 9. Presentation on Information Technology Policy and use of equipment– Robert Collateta, Jr., Network Manager, Office of Information Technology - **Time Certain – May 23, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.
- 10. Presentation of Enrollment Ordinance No. 33 by

Tanya Monroe, Director, Hopi Office of Enrollment – Rosa Honani, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Sipaulovi - **Time Certain –May 25 – 26, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- 11. Discussion and action - Letter dated April 15, 2022 Re: Hopi Tribal Goals and Objectives - Dale Siquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages
- 12. Discussion and possible action - Letter dated April 15, 2022 Re: Preliminary out brief by Office of Justice Services on an evaluation of Hopi Law Enforcement’s Service – Dale Siquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages
- 13. Discussion and possible action – Letter dated April 15, 2022 Re: To address the matter of Building Communities, Inc. – Dale Siquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages
- 14. Discussion and possible action - Letter dated April 22, 2022 Re: Discussion on Representative Wallace Youvella, Jr.’s concern on the BASALT Project – Rosa Honani, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Sipaulovi"
- 15. Discussion and possible action – Letter dated March 31, 2022 Re: Village of Shungopavi’s request for information regarding land lease, including ownership of the property comprising the Hopi Cultural Center – Craig Andrews, Vice Chairman, The Hopi Tribe
- 16. Discussion and possible action – Memo dated April 15, 2022 Re: Directive Regarding Executive Director’s Budget– Craig Andrews, Vice Chairman, The Hopi Tribe"



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Hopi Tribal Council Meets with Hotevilla Village Members Regarding Issues and Updates



Hotevilla village residents attend the Council meeting at the Veteran's Center on April 7, 2022 (photo by Carl Onsae/HT)



Hotevilla village residents sit outside the Hotevilla Youth and Elderly center for their update meeting, due to not having access to the building on May 2, 2022 (photo by Carl Onsae/HT)

By: Carl Onsae, Assistant Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – April 7, 2022 at the Hopi Veteran's Memorial Center (HVMC) and during a Time Certain scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on the Hopi Tribal Council Session Agenda, Item 9. listed on the agenda as "Hopi Tribal Council's meeting with members of Village of Hotevilla, Re: Letter dated January 25, 2022 from Vernita Selestewa regarding Lease with Cellular One, CARES Funding and Water Tank Issue" was addressed by Council.

The Time Certain was scheduled after Vernita Selestewa, a Hotevilla village member, wrote a letter to Lillian Gomez, Acting Community Service Administrator (CSA) Hotevilla Village, the Hotevilla Village Board, and the Hopi Tribal Council to request time to hear from Village of Hotevilla members, regarding their concerns about various issues and to have the problems addressed accordingly.

In Selestewa's letter presented to the Hotevilla Village Board and the Acting CSA, prompt response to three main issues was requested. The issues were the CellOne tower lease, the water tank issue, and the CARE's Act funding. According to Selestewa, the Village of Hotevilla Leadership had not answered any requests for information about the problems plaguing the minds of the village members.

Selestewa hoped to receive an answer or response from the Acting CSA or Village Board and continued the wait up through the meeting day. Selestewa stated, "The letter went to Tribal Council and Hotevilla Acting CSA, but there was no response from the Acting CSA, only from the Tribal Council." The letter was addressed to the Hotevilla Acting CSA, Hotevilla Board/Advisors, and the Hopi Tribal Council.

During the scheduled Hopi Tribal Council Session

Time Certain, the Village of Hotevilla members began expressing their concerns, some of which were addressed in the letter that Selestewa wrote. Approximately 40 plus Hotevilla Village members/residents and enough Hopi Tribal Council Members to establish a quorum were present at the Veteran's Memorial Center when the discussions began. More village members continued arriving throughout the session to witness what Selestewa and the Tribal Council had to say. The meeting started with warm welcomes from the Tribal Council to all the Hotevilla Village members.

Of primary concern to Selestewa was the issue of the "CellOne" tower lease which resulted in more questions about the matters surfacing, such as why the lease hasn't been approved? Or why was this issue not presented to the village members? While the discussion and questions were still in the air, Lillian Gomez, Acting CSA for the Village of Hotevilla, answered that they are in talks with the leasing agency. And that the "CellOne" tower lease was to be put on hold because the Hotevilla "Patrimonial Village Board" had written to the "CellOne" leasing agency to place a hold on all lease agreements until they could seek legal advice.

Micah Lomaomvaya, Realty Officer - Hopi Tribe Realty Office, provided some context to the issue and from the perspective of the Realty Office. Lomaomvaya informed those present that the Realty Office had received a letter from the Village Patrimonial Board of Hotevilla notifying them that they would seek legal advice on this situation regarding the lease. The letter informed the Realty Office that it was to halt any work on all leases concerning the "CellOne" tower at the Village of Hotevilla. Lomaomvaya then explained to those present that he sought guidance from his superiors, who then, in turn, directed him to forward the issue to the Office of General

Counsel. Lomaomvaya explained further that the Hopi Realty Office is still willing to sit and talk with the Hotevilla Elected Village Board to complete the lease agreement. The agreement has not yet been approved.

Selestewa then began addressing the water issue to Tribal Council. Further discussion resulted in information sharing that the village is currently being serviced via one water tank, which needs repair. The Acting CSA notified the group that the issue would be addressed accordingly and through the "proper channels." Although this issue seemed to be one of the Village member's primary concerns, there didn't seem to be any real solution or resolution provided at the session.

The final issue presented by Selestewa was concern about the Care's Act funding issued to the Village of Hotevilla and being administered by the Acting CSA. Selestewa asked questions about what was being bought with the funds and how this benefited the village residents. Gomez answered the questions by reporting what was purchased with the Care's Act funds. She also stated that she and the board approved several items bought for the Hotevilla Community Center. More significant purchases like vehicle maintenance and construction equipment were also purchased with the Care's Act Funds. The purchases and maintenance were described as bought to benefit the Hotevilla community.

Selestewa and the residents of Hotevilla expressed wanting to have some sign of relief that all the issues being presented during the meeting were being adequately addressed and handled appropriately. The meeting seemed to be ending with some signs of relief from those in attendance. However, more questions included, "How can we work together to solve all these issues that still are a problem in the village?"

Hopi Tribal Council Meets with Hotevilla Village Members Regarding Issues and Updates, Cont.

Selestewa provided final statements about the meeting by saying, "I was disappointed that the council did not give any advice to the issues at hand, I think they are not wanting to hold anyone responsible due to their policies in the apportions language."

The meeting ended well into the 8 o'clock hour, and some attendees seemed relieved after expressing their views and concerns about the continued resolve of the issues. Selestewa and other Hotevilla residents left the HVMC after gathering in smaller huddles to give each other hugs and connect with the Tribal Council representatives one-on-one.

After the April 7th meeting at the HVMC, Hopi Tutuveni was invited to listen to and observe an update meeting being held on May 2, 2022 between several village members and the recently Elected Village Board members. A quorum was not achieved at the meeting. However, discussions surrounded concerns about providing an update on how the Elected Village Board members are to work with the Acting CSA and the Patrimonial Board. No actions were taken due to not having a quorum; however, the discussion continued while the attendees had to sit outside the Hotevilla Youth and Elderly Center since the group did not have access to the building. According to those present, an update was needed to ensure

that the Elected Hotevilla Village Board is working via proper channels to resolve pending issues.

The Elected Board members notified those present that they are working on a resolution to halt all incoming funds to the Village of Hotevilla Office until the village gets its affairs in order. Mary Felter, Elected Hotevilla Board member, stated, "We are resolving to have the tribal council take care of the money for Hotevilla since we need to know where the money is coming, so we can function better than before."

At the meeting, several attending village members complained about how village services had stopped, but it wasn't explained exactly how or why. Some members mentioned having difficulty accessing the Youth and Elderly Center to complete the meeting. Other village members had complained about not having a village meeting with the Acting CSA and demanded that she let the village residents know what was going on at the Acting CSA level.

Hopi Tutuveni tried to get in touch with the Acting CSA, Lilian Gomez, to provide her the opportunity to share her perspectives and clarify some of what is occurring at the Acting CSA level. She informed Tutuveni staff that the Hotevilla Patrimonial Board had instructed her not to answer any questions.

Harriet Honhongva-Setalla Retires after 35 years of Employment with the Hopi Tribe



By: Hopi Tutuveni

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – May 6, 2022 Harriet Honhongva-Setalla, a tribal employee who has worked for the Hopi tribe for approximately 35 years, was provided a retirement send-off by her fellow Office of Facilities & Risk Management Services colleagues.

In a May 3, 2022, notification to all Tribal Employees, Honhongva-Setalla informed fellow Hopi Tribal employees that she would be retiring from the Office Manager position with the Hopi Tribe after "...many years of service to the Hopi Tribal Government, approximately 35 years.." with her last day of employment being Friday, May 06, 2022. She also shared, "I have enjoyed working with the staff of all different Programs/Departments of the Hopi Tribe. I am ready to start another chapter of my life. I have so many plans with a never-ending list after my retirement. I have yet to see what I can accomplish. I know I will enjoy staying at home, relaxing...I will surely miss seeing all the friendly faces (even with face masks)."

It is clear that the Hopi Tribe will miss Honhongva-Setalla's presence dearly, as fellow employees did not hold back on replying to the notification with positive words of encouragement. Many expressed gratitude for her dedication of time and efforts in her employment commitments with the Hopi Tribe. She was also praised for her kindness and respect for others.

At the send-off and while being interviewed by Carl Onsaе, Assistant Editor, Harriet shared that she is retiring from the

Hopi Tribe to pursue a much more comfortable life after giving so many years to the Hopi Tribe and stated, "I'm excited about retiring and getting to stay home after working in the Risk Management area of the Hopi tribe for nearly 30 plus years."

Honhongva-Setalla stated, "I have hobbies like sewing, and I can get back into gardening. I look forward to babysitting since I have never baby sat before, and I look forward to that." She has a goal of spending more time with her grandchildren while still capable of running after them. She also wants to do more volunteer work with her community and watch more ceremonial dances in time.

Honhongva-Setalla stated, "I've really enjoyed my job. Edgar has always been there to challenge me and has always been there for me." She said that her best memory working for the Hopi tribe was when she initially started with the Risk Management department and worked on boxes until an old desk was found to use before getting new office furniture.

In a farewell email expressing gratitude to all the tribal employees, she stated, "In order to accomplish your goals in working for the Hopi Tribal Government, enjoy your job, be happy, if things don't go your way, never give up, learn from your mistakes and go on. Take on those challenges; there is always something new to learn. Be kind to one another, treat people the way you would like to be treated. Uma sosuyum haliakakyang sumi tumalayungni. Puy songka itam hita nukwut sao yoorikyani. Ovi uma sosoyum umm katsi yukalayani."

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Village of Tewa files lawsuit to hold insurrectionists, Hopi Tribe, Hopi Tribal Council, and Cares Committee accountable



Picture by original sender

Indian Country Today ran this story on APR 18, 2022 By Press Pool
Village of Tewa

The “Interim Board” (Deidra Honyumtewa, Jayson Paymella, Roni Abeita, Valerie Nuvayestewa, Emma Cortez, Hilton Polacca, and Claude Pahona), Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma, Hopi Tribe, Hopi Tribal Council, CARES Act Committee, Jamie Navenma, Virgil J. Pinto, Dorma Sahneyah, Hopi Law Enforcement, and Jim Davis are named in the lawsuit.

The Village of Tewa Board of Directors, the governing body for the Village of Tewa, has filed a lawsuit in Hopi Tribal Court against the individuals responsible for the insurrection that took place at the Village of Tewa Administration Building on September 28, 2021.

The suit describes how individuals who refer to themselves as the “Interim Board” or “Community of Tewa Village” stormed the Village of Tewa’s Administration Building, held individuals hostage, purported to overthrow the elected Board of Directors, fire all of the Village’s employees, and then

declare themselves the government of the Village of Tewa. The suit also demonstrates that these individuals were assisted in their plot and subsequent takeover by various individuals and entities of the Hopi Tribe. Rather than aiding the legitimate Board, and those who were held hostage, the Hopi Tribe has assisted and recognized the insurrectionists. The Board of Directors has suffered greatly from this coup d’état, which is an assault on democracy itself.

Worse yet, the Complaint sets forth that individuals within the Hopi Government conspired to overthrow the Village of Tewa’s Board of Directors and install a puppet regime (the Interim Board). For example, the Complaint describes that the September 28th insurrection was instigated by, among others, the Hopi Chairman’s campaign manger, Deidra Honyumtewa (who is also the Chairwoman of the Interim Board), the Executive Director of the Hopi Tribe, Dorma Sahneyah, and a member of the CARES Act Committee, Jamie Navemna. The Complaint also details how the Hopi Chairman then held a campaign event with the illegal Interim Board shortly after the coup. Eventually, the conspiracy was complete when the Tribal Council placed the

Village of Tewa under the Chairman in the Finance Department via Hopi Tribal Council Resolution H-008-2022.

As described in the Complaint, the Hopi Tribe’s assistance, and recognition of the Interim Board, is not only egregious (given its supports of the insurrectionists), but it also violates the Village’s sovereignty. The Hopi Villages have the absolute right under Article III, Section 3, of the Hopi Constitution to be free from interference in their internal affairs from the Hopi Government. The Hopi Constitution preserves the right of all Villages to choose their own leadership—not to have puppet regimes installed via a coup d’état. The Hopi Tribe has violated the Hopi Constitution by formally recognizing the insurrectionists as the governing body of the Village of Tewa.

The Village of Tewa Board of Directors are represented by Colin Bradley Law, PLLC of Phoenix, Arizona.

The full complaint, which was filed in Hopi Tribal Court, can be released upon request to the Village of Tewa Board of Directors.



Tutskwat Oqawtoynani 2022 Earth Day Clean Up

Submitted by Valerie Nuvayestewa
Project Coordinator, Tutskwat Oqawtoynani

May 3, 2022, First Mesa, Arizona-

64 volunteers gathered in the wind to clean an estimated 2.75 tons of trash on Tutskwat Oqawtoynani's 2022 April Earth Day Cleanup. Two half day cleanups were done, Friday April 22nd, recleaning behind, below Tewa Village, and on Saturday, April 23rd moving from Tewa Village towards Sichomovi Village on the back side of the mesa. Our community village cleanups started in 2016. It took us 6 years to clean the back side of Tewa Village only. This speaks to the enormity of trash that has been removed from behind, below Tewa Village. Keep in mind that we have not even cleaned the front side of Tewa yet.

Tutskwat Oqawtoynani, (helping the earth to gather its strength), formerly know as First Mesa Annual Cleanup, has evolved from a small family initiative to clean the entire First Mesa Villages, Tewa, Sichomovi, and Walpi from top to bottom, to annual community cleanup events that has attracted hundreds of volunteers over the years, not only from other Second and Third mesa villages and our neighboring Navajo relatives, but this year, two individuals made the trek all the way from Rhode Island to help us out. Vital partnerships have been created with our awesome community members, First Mesa Villages, national, local and border town businesses, tribal programs, as well as our Traditional Leadership here at First Mesa.

For this April Earth Day Cleanup, we received help from CellularOne and Hopi Telecommunications Inc., to feed our volunteers. There were donations of food and drinks from Tara Pablo, Candice Ami, Kareesa Mahle, Loretta Nuvayestewa, Sichomovi Village, Elise Lomawaima, Leah Whitman James, First Mesa Baptist Church, Pastor Park, and Lori Nuvayestewa. Walpi Village, CSA, Alan Chavez and their security staff helped us with traffic flow and parking and allowed us to feed our volunteers on Saturday at Itaaki Bathhouse. We also were surprised, yet happy to hear when we went to dump the 150 bags of trash at the Hopi Solid Waste Landfill, Danford Wadsworth, Director of the Hopi Solid Waste Program, informed us that we did not have to pay any fees for the trash we brought. Yay!! We'll take all the victories, big and small!

New partners that have provided funding for our project this year is Colorado Plateau Foundation, Justice Outside and Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance. We hope to make more connections as we are looking at another 8-10 years of cleaning to completely clear all the trash top to bottom from First Mesa.

One of the highlights this year was seeing the land returning to its healthy state in the areas we first started our cleanup back in 2016. We had originally intended to go back and reseed these areas where the layers of trash were removed so we could bring back the grasses and natural plants, but we now know that once the land is cleaned, it can and will heal

itself and we are seeing the plants and grasses returning on their own because the land can breathe once again in those areas that were once covered with trash. This is a huge victory within itself as we know that the health of our environment directly affects the health of the people who live there.

The layers of trash that we see, like peeling back the layers of an onion, can be likened to the healing of our people in that there are layers of hurt, pain, grief, and sorrow, that we all carry within, layers that must be peeled back to move forward in a positive, healthy direction in our lives. We have experienced so much loss and pain over the past two years on the Hopi Nation and are all in different stages of healing. So, we must begin, again, to do the hard work of clearing the layers of "trash" on our lands and in our lives. Once we begin moving to action, we will begin to see new growth in all areas of our lives."

We will see, springing forth, the return of hope, happiness, and a sincere caring for ourselves, and others. We will then, in all honesty and humbleness, truly be able to call ourselves Hopi, Stewards of the Land, Caretakers of this World!

For more information you may contact Valerie Nuvayestewa, Project Coordinator at h3h3imana@gmail.com, (928)737-2272. Or follow us on our Facebook page, Tutskwat Oqawtoynani. We will be hosting three more cleanups in 2022. The next cleanup is scheduled for June 25th where we will be partnering with Conservation Legacy, Ancestral Lands Hopi crew to remove bulk trash items from the sides of the mesa.

We would like to thank the following for their support and volunteering their time, services and/or donations to the April Earth Day Cleanup, 2022

First Mesa Traditional Leadership
Sichomovi Village Board and Staff
Hopi Solid Waste Program-Danford Wadsworth
Walpi Village Board and Staff
Alan Chavez
Tewa Village Board
Drew Lomayaktewa
Susan and Selwyn Sekaquaptewa
Carol Ovah
Hooman Mohajeri
Ryan Carl
Erin Eustace
Janice Nuvayestewa
Leon Nuvayestewa Sr.
Wayne Justin
Evangeline Nuvayestewa
Deborah Pablo
Renae Mahkewa
Brandon Pablo
Tara Pablo
Elyse Lomawaima
Maree Mahkewa
Ryan David
Lori Nuvayestewa

Loren David
Jerry Johns
Lani Lomawunu
Boisiu Dewangyumtewa
Dayton Lomawaima
Greg Yestewa
Tiah Lomawaima
Cody Honani
Kandace Lomawaima
Loretta Nuvayestewa
Maliya Gishie
Delfred Leslie
Hale Kahe
Gary Leslie-House Calls Radio Show
Allison Falkenberry
Staci Kaye
Stephen Falkenberry
Ruby Hamilton
Carliss Siquah
Jim Tawyesva Jr.
Delano Nuvayestewa
James Surveyor
Anthony Nuvayestewa
Marissa Nuvayestewa
Aiden Nuvayestewa
Yvonne Kaye
Naquahoinom Huma
Tyrell Dewangyumtewa
Theron Huma
Wilma Dengavi
Gracie Hayah
Tracie Hayah
Hale Nasonhoya
Juwan Brown
Jefferey Martin
Chorosi Honie
Sean Dewangyumtewa
First Mesa Baptist Church
Leah Whitman James
Candice Ami
Kareesa Mahle
CellularOne-Drew Logsdon
Daniell Ami
Mike Talayumtewa
Mariena George
Hopi Telecommunications-Pam Harvey
Jordan David
Bonnie Secakuku
Colorado Plateau Foundation
Justice Outside
Seventh Generation for Indigenous Peoples Inc.
Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance
Ivan Sidney Sr.

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Public Law 101-630 (codified in 25 United States Code § 3207), requires criminal history records check as a condition of employment for positions that involve regular contact with or control over Indian children.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Hopi Family Assistance Program is in receipt of Pandemic Emergency Funds to provide a one-time monetary assistance to the Hopi/Tewa families with children who are in need. This one-time assistance is to assist with specific crisis situations or episodes that occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, invite eligible Hopi Enrolled families with children who reside within the Service Delivery Area of the Hopi Reservation, and the trusted lands located in Winslow, AZ and the Hopi Partitioned Lands (HPL) to apply.

Eligibility criteria:

- Applicant must reside within the boundaries of the Hopi Reservation
- Family with children in the home
- Applicant must fall within the 250% income poverty threshold
- Crisis must have been due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Valid State issued ID or Driver's License
- Verification of Hopi enrollment
- Court Order or Relative Placement Order from Social Service
- School Verification of children on the reservation or students who are in a boarding school in Winslow, Flagstaff or a BIE Boarding School.
- Notice of Delinquent bills (shut off notices, etc.)
- Notice of Personnel Action (termination, layoff or reduction in hours)
- Self-declaration for self-employment/statement identifying needs and;
- Documentation of any other type of income received from other entities.

Funds are limited and on a first-come-first-serve basis. Approval and processing of payments will take approximately 45 days.

Questions may be directed to the Hopi Family Assistance Program at (928) 734-2202 Option #3.

Hopi Tutuveni wants your AD's
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2022 Hopi High School Varsity Basketball Team Members Receive NTUA Sportsmanship Award Recipients



Pictured are NTUA Sportsmanship Award Winners, Hopi High School Bruins Basketball players - Owen Begay and Nevaeh Lomavaya Photo Credits: HJSHS

Submitted by: Ricky Greer, Athletic Director - Hopi Jr./Sr. High School

Keams Canyon, Ariz. – Friday, May 13, 2022 this week, members of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) recognized two of our Hopi High School Varsity Basketball Team Members as the 2022 NTUA Sportsmanship Award Recipients.

Congrats to Hopi Bruins Basketball players, Owen Begay and Nevaeh Lomavaya. Both players had fantastic sea-

sons, played with great determination, and demonstrated amazing Hopi Bruins sportsmanship during each game. We are proud of the awesome job these two Bruins did which led to the recognition.

We also want recognize and acknowledge all the Hopi Bruins Basketball Team members. A great job was done by all, in demonstrating good sportsmanship and playing with true Bruin Pride throughout the season.

2021-2022 HJSHS Sports Medicine Club Update



Pictured are many of the HJSHS 2021-2022 Sports Medicine Club MembersPhoto Credits: HJSHS

Submitted by: Ricky Greer, Athletic Director - Hopi Jr./Sr. High School

Keams Canyon, Ariz. – Thursday, May 12, 2022, the Hopi Jr./Sr. High School 2021-2022 Sports Medicine Club held their final meeting of the school year.

Pictured are many of this year's club members.

The HJSHS Sports Medicine Club is one of the hardest working groups on campus.

Not only are the overwhelming majority of members multiple sport-athletes, they also work hard in the classroom. In addition to classroom participation, they still make time to assist other sports programs as Sports Medicine Club Members.

We want to express much gratitude to this outstanding group of HJSHS Bruins. Way to go Bruins, you are truly appreciated.

The Hopi Tutuveni Team would like to wish all Hopi 2022 Graduates a big CONGRATULATIONS!

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Vice-Chairman's Office Meet with Local Hopi ranchers

By: Carl Onsaе, Hopi Tutuveni

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – Monday, April 18, 2022 is the date on which a meeting was scheduled to be conducted by the office of the Vice Chairman with Hopi ranchers from around the Hopi reservation. Meeting participants joined at the Hopi Veterans Center located in Kykotsmovi, Ariz. to discuss the issues related to drought and other problems related to ranching on the Hopi reservation.

During the 2-hour meeting, Vice Chairman Craig Andrews asked the participants what they thought about the drought issue and if anyone in the audience had a solution or a partial solution to the problems that persisted in Hopi ranching. Also, Vice Chairman Andrews asked the audience about how to deal with the drought that has plagued the Hopi reservation and the state of Arizona alike for many years.

Several meeting participants voiced their opinions and stories about growing up and ranching on the Hopi reservation. The stories the individuals shared were very relevant and vital to the topics being discussed and the problems at hand. Although sharing took place, it didn't appear that specific solutions to the issues at hand were provided. The stories were described as "just memories" by Vice Chairman Andrews.

One participant voiced her opinion on the issue of the drought. She stated that when she was younger and was being raised as a young girl in the Hopi ranching world, she saw many ranchers help each other in any way possible when they needed it. She also stated that ranchers do not help each other in recent times and do not seem to care for one another in the Hopi ranching world.

Several others expressed opinions and quotes while in attendance and were similar in nature and to the issues at hand.

Other verbal expressions from meeting participants included notifying about their concerns and critiques about the Hopi tribe and departments like the Hopi Tribe Resource Enforcement Services (HRES) and Office of Range Management (ORM). In response, the Department staff promised help to the Hopi ranchers. Complaints expressed included those pertaining to water well issues and windmills being broken all the time. Other participants complained that no one at the HRES or the ORM office could take their call when they were in need for answers.

During the meeting, Vice Chairman Andrews reminded the participants that the issues must have a solution. Vice Chairman's office and department staff from HLES and ORM were looking for some input from the patrons about the drought issues and related issues being presented during the meeting.

Overall the meeting discussions seemed to circle around the ranchers having similar problems and that they were all on the same page about needing to voice their complaints and opinions about those problems and issues at hand. It seemed that they just need to be heard in order to get to any

solutions, which might surface as a result of getting to the root of the concerns and problems, via having all parties being heard.

Although several ranchers who attended the meeting had voiced their complaints to the Vice Chairman, there were other ranchers who live throughout the Hopi reservation who did not know about the discussion on April 18, 2022.

Being that Hopi Tutuveni interviewed a local Hopi Rancher, Makwesa Chimerica a rancher, farmer, and family man, and who was one who had been affected by the news in 2021 to reduce his livestock which was reported in the August 18, 2021 Hopi Tutuveni publication, staff reached out to Chimerica.

In the August 18, 2021 publication, the Hopi rancher did specify some of the following in the excerpts below:

When Chimerica received the news that he would be required, in accordance with the order, to reduce his cattle by 100% he felt confounded by what he must do. Chimerica stated, "When we got the letter from the [Hopi] tribe, I felt devastated because ranching has been passed down from generation to generation. This ranching is not about money but it holds sentimental value to me and my family."

Chimerica stated that he has two younger boys that he wanted to pass this family tradition down to, and now they have to get rid of ranching as part of their lives.

In the letter that Chimerica received, it states that all range units on the Hopi tribe must forego "10 years" without livestock and that this decision was made with the Hopi Law Enforcement Services (HLES), Office of Range Management and the Office of Hopi Lands Administration (OHLA), and Hopi Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Chimerica stated, "When I heard that we can't have any cattle for 10 years, I think that hurt me the most, [be]cause I have a son who is 8 years old and for him to not grow up with the knowledge of ranching, I think the [Hopi] tribe is wrong about this not telling us about this decision."

According to Chimerica, his understanding of meetings occurring in 2018 with CKP Insurance LLC was to designate to the ranchers and farmers alike, services for them as recipients being impacted by the droughts occurring during that year and subsequent years, as well...Chimerica also understood the situation to mean that the DNR and the Hopi Tribe was given authority to use funds received as payment from the drought insurance for such projects including but not limited to; range, grazing and livestock, tribal ranches infrastructure, earthen dams, farming and irrigation, agricultural water development, dams, reservoirs and catchments systems, watershed planning for agriculture, agricultural complexes, drought contingency plan (mitigation measures), area wide fencing, brand office and other approved uses. And although, this money was supposed to improve on the Range Units, according to Makwesa, ranchers like himself have not seen or heard from the Hopi tribe trying to improve their particular Range Units.

Prior to the executive order, no meetings were set up to communicate with the ranchers in the several districts about this decision and the executive order. Chimerica states, "The last ranch meeting I went to was back in 2018 and during the meeting we were told that several [Range] Units around the Hopi reservation were to get help with improving our windmills, water dams, etc. they promised us all this, but they never made their promise true."

The executive order also states that several range units and other districts will have reduction by 30% or 50% meaning they can keep several of their livestock while others will have to completely get rid of 100% of their livestock.

Chimerica also stated, "I don't agree with the [Hopi] tribe's decision when I heard that other districts can keep some of their livestock. There should have been a meeting to explain why they are reducing 100% in only District 6." Currently there are about 8 ranchers on District 6 that this executive order is affecting...Chimerica stated, "The [Hopi] tribe should have had developed a plan for us to relocate our livestock instead of getting rid of our cattle, at least we could keep some of our cattle. Or try to get rid of the wild horses first before making this decision."

...Chimerica lastly stated, "I hope the tribe makes a decision to let us keep some of our livestock, and I hope I don't have to get rid of my livelihood. Like I said this has been passed down from generation to generation, and I was hoping I would have passed this down to my son, but he will be 18 years old when we are allowed to have cattle again."

During Tutuveni's follow up contact, Chimerica noted that he was not in attendance at the April 18, 2022 meeting as he did not know that there would be a rancher's meeting at the Hopi Veteran's Center. Chimerica stated, "No one had told me about a rancher's meeting."

Tutuveni staff shared some of the topics which were discussed and although he was not in the meeting, he did have some thoughts about the discussion and the complaints presented to the Vice Chairman. Chimerica stated, "I think we should all work together and to look at the future and the changing times. Times are changing and we should change with it."

During the meeting Vice Chairman did express to the participants that he would take the information, gathered at the meeting, into account and work diligently to solve some of the issues being shared by the meeting participants.

Hopefully, this meeting will aid in some type of resolve or partial resolve to some issues that the ranchers are having on the Hopi reservation. Time will tell if any of what was said in the meeting will be considered and accountability for the promises made to those participating will be achieved from the Hopi government side and that Hopi ranchers will also meet their responsibilities for their interests in Hopi ranching.

COMMUNITY

Americans' Recognition of Racism's Impacts is Fading

(StatePoint) In the summer of 2020 when calls for racial justice and the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 were on full display, some speculated that the country seemed to be at a turning point for acknowledging how much racism affects people's health and economic well-being.

However, a new national survey from the non-profit RAND Corporation reveals that despite the public outcry and mounting evidence that racism and the pandemic are contributing to disparities between people of color and White people, the public's recognition of racial inequities and the impacts of systemic racism is fading. Indeed, in July 2020, 61.1% of respondents agreed that people of color face more of the health impact of COVID-19 than White people, and 57.5% agreed that they face more of the financial impact. More than a year later, these numbers have dropped to 52.7% and 50.3%, respectively.

The data suggest that there has not been a seismic shift or enduring change in perception.

"We conducted this survey because we wanted to see whether living through a once-in-a-century global pandemic would spur a shift in deep-seated perspectives and attitudes around health, systemic racism, and equity," Anita Chandra, vice president and senior policy researcher at RAND Corporation, said. "We found that views around race and racism appear to be extremely entrenched. Moving forward, policies and actions that seek to address these issues must factor in where the public is and what needs to happen for these sentiments to evolve."

As legislators around the country convene to tackle the pandemic and build

their priorities for 2022, researchers say these findings must be top of mind as they work to make change. The good news is that of the same people surveyed about their views on race and health, most see the pandemic as a moment for positive change. Changes people hope to see include:

- improving access to health care (25.3%),
- prioritizing science in policy decisions (11.7%),
- protecting our freedom (11.1%), and
- increasing flexibility in how we all work (10.9%), among others.

And legislators can often look in their own backyards for inspiration. There is so much work being done at the community level to undo the impacts of racism and rebuild a more equitable society that are worth recognizing and learning from. For example, over the past few years, more than 200 cities, counties, and leaders declared racism a public health crisis. Researchers say that this is an important step that can lead to efforts for real, lasting change centered on equity. We are already seeing this play out in some settings, from statehouses to city halls, where health equity is driving policy decisions.

To read more about "COVID-19 and the Experiences of Populations at Greater Risk" survey findings, visit rwjf.org/covidsurvey.

To read more about communities working to center equity to improve the health of everyone, visit rwjf.org/prize.

With more than two-thirds of respondents believing the pandemic presents a moment for positive change, researchers say that while there's work to be done, there are also reasons to be hopeful.

EDUCATION

Helping Schools and Students Recover From Pandemic Challenges

(StatePoint) Over the past two years, public schools have faced continual disruptions brought about by COVID-19. Experts say that federal relief funds have given the nation a one-time opportunity to learn from the experience and to focus recovery efforts and resources on delivering high-quality instruction and support for students in ways that will accelerate their learning and meet their social and emotional needs.

"The federal government has provided \$189 billion in resources for states and localities targeted at education recovery. If unchecked and unsupported, states risk bending to the pressure of forces more concerned with political expediency and ideology than sound policy that helps students," says Jim Cowen, executive director of the Collaborative for Student Success. "Parents, educators, administrators and policymakers deserve credible information about effective policies and practices that are using these funds to accelerate student learning."

According to Cowen, this is why the Collaborative for Student Success, in partnership with The Center on Reinventing Public Education (CRPE) and the Edumetrics Lab at Georgetown University, launched EduRecoveryHub.org, a one-stop resource that showcases emerging practices in schools supported with Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funding (ESSER) and other federal recovery funds that can be replicated nationwide.

From improving school facilities to easing teacher shortages, the site provides insights into the smart investments that best ensure schools recover stronger and every student benefits. Parents and families can use this site to advocate for their students and point to good ideas that meet specific needs as they talk to teachers, principals, and school board members. Educators and district staff can learn from their colleagues about ways in which they are overcoming the lingering challenges of

the pandemic. The site also allows policymakers to reference and compare state-by-state recovery information and access expert analysis from diverse viewpoints. A panel of national and state-based organizations and experts serving or representing parents, school and district leaders, classroom educators, and the civil rights community review and comment on specific practices they support.

"As difficult as pandemic learning has been, our research has shown many bright spots: schools and educators who have gone above and beyond by making powerful connections with students, finding creative ways to deliver personalized learning, and working with community partners to ensure students are healthy and ready to learn," says Robin Lake, director of CRPE. "But many of these efforts are ad hoc. The unprecedented federal investment will allow school systems to implement effective approaches -- if they pay attention to what we know has worked."

"The federal investment represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity for school districts to help students re-engage in school, get back on track in reading and math, and earn sufficient credits to graduate ready for college or a career," says Chad Aldeman, policy director of Edumetrics Lab. "In the wake of the pandemic, we are seeing districts use funds in new ways to address challenges and improve student outcomes. These savvy, nimble investments may catch on in other communities and help propel students forward."

Interactive and easy-to-use, the [EduRecoveryHub](http://EduRecoveryHub.org) is updated frequently. Individuals or organizations can reference these evolving resources or share their own examples of innovative programs in education by visiting edurecoveryhub.org.

From innovative ways to address student mental health needs to work being done to accelerate academic learning, spotlighting education recovery efforts across America can spark progress and improvements in other communities.



Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services Covid-19 Emergency Response May 12, 2022 Report

KYKOTSMOVI, AZ –May 12, 2022 This data is updated on the Hopi Tribe's website "COVID-19 Response and Resources" page.

Hopi Health Care Center – Community COVID-19 Testing & Vaccination Information

COVID-19 vaccines are available in the afternoons on Mondays and Wednesdays for the month of March for those 5 years and older. To schedule an appointment call (928) 737-6148 or 737-6081. Appointments are required. For questions about COVID-19 vaccines please call (928) 737-6198 or 737-6197.

COVID-19 Testing Drive-up Testing schedule: Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 8:15–9:30 AM. Enter at the west entrance & drive around back. Mask must be worn by everyone in your vehicle. Please stay in your vehicle at all times. To schedule for testing or for more information please call (928) 737-6187 or 6233.

A COVID-19 Hotline has been created by the Hopi Health Care Center to assist with all COVID-19 related questions and service requests. The hotline is open Monday–Friday from 8 AM–5 PM. To contact the COVID-19 hotline please call (928) 737-6187.

TUBA CITY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE CORPORATION (TCRHCC) – COMMUNITY COVID-19 TESTING & VACCINATION INFORMATION:

To all Moenkopi residents: Testing, and now vaccinations, at TCRHCC are being held at the outdoor tent Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Daylight Savings Time. Rapid and CEPHEID tests can take approximately 3 hours. Send out tests can take 2-3 days. The address for Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation is 167 N. Main Street, Tuba City, AZ. For more information regarding Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation's COVID-19 vaccination clinic and testing, please call 1-866-976-5941. TCRHCC now has at-home COVID-19 test kits available for the community. To request a test kit please go through the drive up tent from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Daylight Savings Time or go to the pharmacy drive up window after hours.

FREE AT-HOME COVID-19 TESTS:

You can now order free at-home COVID-19 tests from the U.S. government at covidtests.gov by calling 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489). Only 4 tests come in an order and only two orders per household. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. Please do not wait to order your tests when you have been exposed or become symptomatic as the tests will not arrive in enough time for you to be tested. So please order them now so that you and your loved ones can be prepared. Households that did not place their first order of test kits, can now place their first AND second order. They must complete the ordering process above two (2) times to place both a first and second order (for a total of 8 test kits).

FREE N-95 MASKS

The CDC now has a resource on their website where you can see a list of local pharmacies that have free N-95 masks by using your zip code. Click here or call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489).

QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION CALCULATOR:

The CDC now has a Quarantine and Isolation calculator that helps determine how long you need to isolate or quarantine.

(TABLE ON PG 5)

"CDC is recommending that moderately or severely immunocompromised 5–11-year-olds receive an additional primary dose of vaccine 28 days after their second shot." Remember that the only vaccine that 5-17 year olds are eligible for is Pfizer.

SOURCE: Different COVID-19 Vaccines – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention SYMPTOMS, QUARANTINE, AND ISOLATION:

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 and can range from mild to severe. The following are COVID-19 symptoms that people may experience:

- 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."

Currently, the local health department and HHCC are implement the previously recommended CDC guidelines which is a 10 day isolation for those who test positive and a 14 day quarantine for those exposed to an infected individual.

(GLOSSARY ON PG. 5)

Be aware that when someone tests positive they became contagious 2 days before they developed symptoms, or if they are not experiencing symptoms 2 days before they tested positive not the day they received their results. If someone was less than 6 feet away from a potential positive case for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period they would be considered a close contact regardless of whether or not both parties were wearing masks. For example, Molly was within 6 feet of Craig on Thursday night for 10 minutes and on Friday morning for 5 minutes. Craig developed symptoms Saturday evening, was tested for COVID on Monday, and received their results on Wednesday. Because Molly was within 6 feet of Craig for a total of 15 minutes over a 24 hour period within the 2 day timeframe she is now considered to be a close contact. If you have been identified as a close contact you may or may not need to quarantine depending on your vaccination status.

If an unvaccinated individual that is not positive is having to take care of someone that is infected, they will need to quarantine for 14 days beginning on the infected person's 10th day of isolation, with that day being Day 0 and the following day being Day 1. That means the caregiver could potentially be out of work for 24 days. If a vaccinated person that is not positive is having to take care of someone that is infected, they will not have to quarantine but will need to get tested 5 days from the 10th day of the infected person's isolation. If a vaccinated person develops symptoms while caring for an infected person they will need to get tested as soon as possible and remain at home until they receive their results.

Re-testing of COVID-19 Positive Employees. Per guidance and alignment with HHCC, CDC, state and local health departments, and OSHA workplace guidance for COVID-19 re-testing of positive or suspected COVID-19 employees before they return to work, nor providing letters to go back to work is not recommended.

The recommended reason for not re-testing is an individual may continue to test positive on a viral test long after they are recovered from COVID-19. These dead viral particles will turn viral tests positive even though they cannot cause disease in others. The Hopi Health Care Center strongly encourages employers to use the CDC's symptom and criteria below even if they continue to test positive. Once they meet the three criteria, they are no longer considered infectious to others. However, if the employee was severely ill (hospitalized) or in immunocompromised, plead advise them to visit their primary care provide before returning to work.

The "checklist" below has been updated as of the most recent COVID-19 guidelines from the CDC and will be used by employers to determine when an employee with confirmed COVID-19 may return to work safely. For additional questions, please call the Hopi Health Care Center COVID-19 hotline (928) 737-6188.

- ☐ It's been at last ten days since I first had symptoms or received my positive diagnosis if I've not had symptoms (please note date of first symptoms: _____)
- ☐ Overall my symptoms have improved and I am feeling better.
- ☐ It's been at least 72 hours since I last had a fever without using fever-reducing medicine.

If you checked all three boxes, you are no longer a considered at risk to infect others and can go back to work!

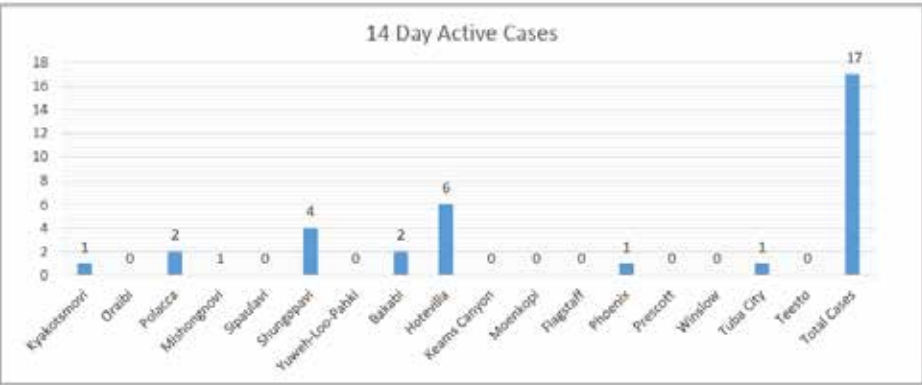
Hopi Tribe Department of Health and Human Services Covid-19 Emergency Response May 12, 2022 Report, Cont.

VILLAGE	POPULATION ESTIMATE	NUMBER VACCINATED *	PERCENT OF POPULATION VACCINATED	VACCINE RANKING (HIGHEST = 1)
Bakabi	364	258	70.88%	6
Hotevilla	830	692	83.37%	3
Kyakotsmovi	552	670	121.38%	1
Mishongnovi	731	391	53.49%	9
Moenkopi	1,191	860	72.21%	5
Oraibi	159	166	104.40%	2
Shungopavi	1,290	836	64.81%	8
Sipaulavi	400	261	65.25%	7
Polacca	2,005	1,484	74.01%	4
Total	7,522**	5,618	74.69%	

	Age Eligibility	Primary Series	Booster Dose
Pfizer	5+ years old	2 doses given 21 days apart	Everyone ages 18 years and older should get a booster dose of either Pfizer or Moderna (COVID-19 vaccines) at least 5 months after the last dose in their primary series. Teens 16-17 years old may get a Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine booster at least 5 months after after the last dose in their primary series.
Moderna	18+ years old	2 doses given 28 days apart	Everyone ages 18 years and older should get a booster dose of either Pfizer or Moderna (COVID-19 vaccines) at least 6 months after the last dose in their primary series.
Johnson & Johnson	18+ years old	1 dose	Everyone ages 18 years and older should get a booster dose of either Pfizer or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) at least 2 months after the first dose of J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.

GLOSSARY	
Close Contact	Someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). An infected person can spread COVID starting 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic people, 2 days before the date the positive test was taken).
Contact Tracing	The process of identifying individuals that are considered close contacts to an infected person.
Isolation	The procedure that individuals follow when they have received positive results. Isolation guidelines are if an individual test positive and is experiencing symptoms their 10 day isolation period will start the first day they developed symptoms. If an individual is not experiencing symptoms then their 10 day isolation starts the day they got tested, not the day they received their results. The day they were tested will be Day 0 and the following day will be Day 1. The first day an individual develops symptoms is considered Day 0. The following day will start Day 1.
Quarantine	The procedure that individuals follow when they have come in contact with someone who tested positive. Unvaccinated individuals, regardless of whether they are experiencing symptoms or not, need to quarantine for 14 days from the last day they were in contact with the infected person. As a reminder, the day an individual was in contact with an infected person is Day 0 and the day after will start Day 1. If an individual not experiencing symptoms that received negative results begins to experience symptoms after they received their results, they will need to get tested again. Vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact UNLESS you are experiencing symptoms. Regardless if you end up having to quarantine vaccinated individuals need to get tested. For individuals that are experiencing symptoms and are vaccinated, they need to get tested as soon as possible and remain at home until they receive their results. For individuals that are NOT experiencing symptoms and are vaccinated, it is suggested that you wait 5 days from the last contact with the infected person to get tested.

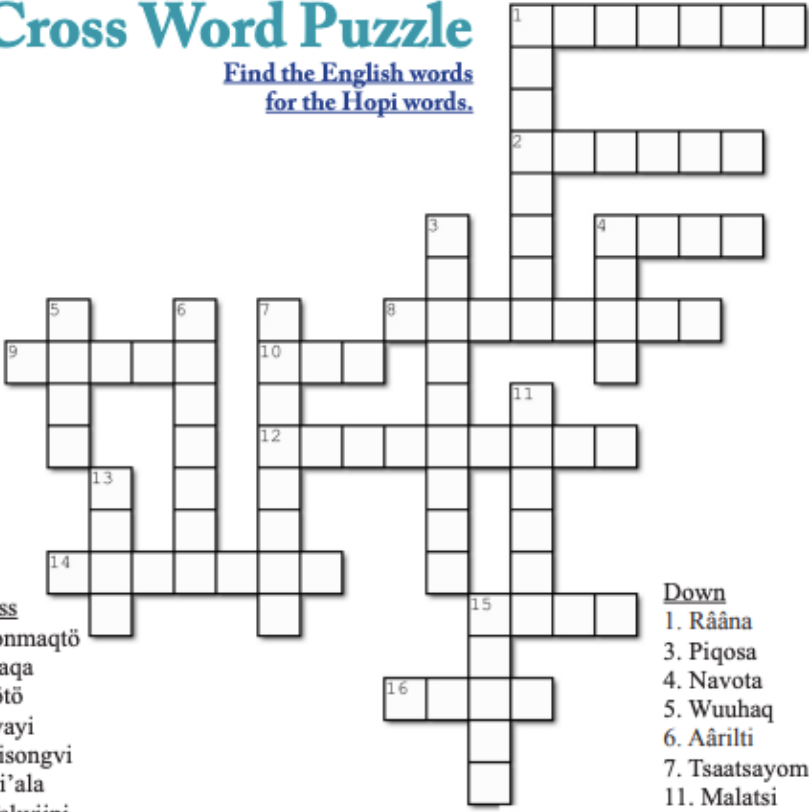
AS OF MAY 12, 2022				
	U.S.	Arizona	Navajo County	Coconino County
Cases	82,087,117	2,030,925	38,394	44,091
Deaths	996,376	30,230	909	478
Vaccination (Total Pop. w/ At Least 1 Dose)	77.6%	71.0%	50.7%	54.8%
Vaccination (Eligible Pop. w/ At Least 1 Dose)	82.5%	75.5%	54.4%	58.6%



	COVID-19 Positives Last 14-Days	COVID-19 Positives Cumulative Total	Most Recent Case
Kyakotsmovi	1	301	April 29, 2022
Oraibi	0	37	February 28, 2022
Polacca (Walpi-Shitchumovi-Tewa)	2	630	May 9, 2022
Mishongnovi	0	198	April 26, 2022
Sipaulavi	0	113	February 10, 2022
Shungopavi	4	399	May 5, 2022
Yuweh-Loo-Pahki	0	12	January 13, 2021
Bakabi	2	101	April 29, 2022
Hotevilla	6	332	May 11, 2022
Keams Canyon	0	212	March 18, 2022
Flagstaff	0	6	March 29, 2022
Moenkopi	0	305	April 19, 2022
Phoenix	1	6	May 4, 2022
Winslow	0	12	December 6, 2021
Prescott	0	1	July 20, 2020
Tuba City	1	4	May 10, 2022
Teesto	0	2	October 7, 2021
TOTAL	17	2671	

Cross Word Puzzle

Find the English words
for the Hopi words.



Across

- 1. Honmaqtö
- 2. Saaqa
- 4. Qötö
- 8. lavayi
- 9. Kiisongvi
- 10. Pi'ala
- 12. Talwiipi
- 14. Tupko
- 15. Peena
- 16. Pisa

Down

- 1. Râana
- 3. Piqosa
- 4. Navota
- 5. Wuuhaq
- 6. Aârilti
- 7. Tsaatsayom
- 11. Malatsi
- 13. Aahu
- 15. Wunima

Answers in next issue

Answers for April 20
Across
3. Eight, 6. Two, 7. Cost, 8. Dance, 10. Thank you, 11. Go home, 13. School, 14. Back, 15. Ear, 16. Who
Down
1. Give, 2. Leg, 4. Twenty, 5. Strength, 7. Cloudy, 9. All, 11. Gather, 12. Clown, 14. Bow
Call 928-734-3283 for hints or answers

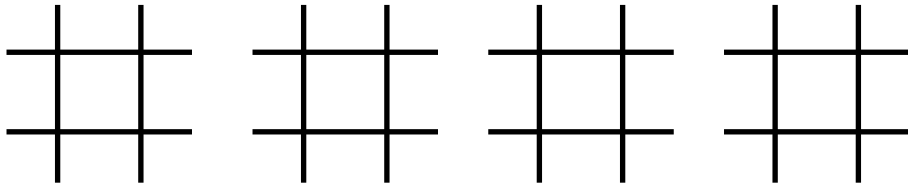
PUZZLES AND GAMES

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

HOPI WORDS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tuwi'yta - Able (skillful) | Pö'i'yta - Debt (Have) | Wiiki'yma - Guide (Singular) |
| Yuki'at - Accomplishment | Öqala - Determined | Sivaqöppö - Heater |
| Tukopna - Accuse | Alögö - Different | Hopiiqatsi - Hopi Way of Life |
| Hintsakpi - Activity | Hötsiwa - Doorway | Nü'okwa - Kind Hearted |
| Pu'ason - Afterward | Hiihiko - Drink | Ngahu - Medicine |
| Qe'ti - Back out of | Nan'ip - Each (of two) | Muytala - Moon Light |
| Novaki - Bakery | Tutuqayiw - Education | Tömö - Season (Winter) |
| Tuptsiwini - Belief | Töövü - Ember | Nuvati - Snowed |
| Kwusiva - Bring | Tumal'aya - Employee | Nawini - Suggestion |
| Päato - Burst | Tunatya - Endeavor | Tsangaw - Thank Goodness |
| Pitanakts - Cap/Hat | Naatsiki - Factionalize | Kyaamuya - Winter (Solstice) |
| Sikiki - Car (Auto) | Qöppö - Fire place | Hihiiyà - Wow! |
| Kansulmongwi - Chair- | Saavu - Fire wood | |
| man Namora - Choice | Tuuqayta - Fluent | |
| Iyoho'ti - Cold (Weather) | Qalaptu - Get Over (Re- | |
| Kyesmismuyaw - Decem- | cover) | |

TICK-TACK-TOE



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Larry's Corner

Is it Spring Time Yet?

Remember the time when the weather was just right? Where you only needed a light sweater in the mornings, and the air would be crisp with the smell of dew-covered leaves, the wet sand from previous night's moisture. The birds were chirping, and the neighbors bid each other, "Good morning!"

I remember those days when we had that sort of weather in early May where the air was crisp in the springtime mornings. Good times we had here on the Hopi reservation where our neighbors would be out and about cleaning, dusting, and walking around the village. I sure do miss mornings like that.

Growing up on the reservation, I saw the village in full bloom. Hopi elderly would sit in front of their houses to catch the morning sun before it got too hot, and people would be raking the fallen leaves and sticks around their homes. No one would be inside their house because it would be the perfect day not to waste.

Here in the year 2022, it's almost the middle part of the year with less than one more month before we are at the halfway mark of the year. And I know we still haven't got off the pandemic train and are trying to allow the re-set button to pop back up after we anxiously pushed it in with force. It feels like we are starting anew, somewhat, and this year is starting to test us again with the forceful winds. Some folks are expressing fear and doubts about this tu'ya (sickness) that still lingers within the Hopi communities and the whole wide world, as well. Now I'm not saying that all of us are still scared of one another, but I'm saying that this fear of being social is still present. A question recently circling in this Hopi Cat mind of mine is, "Will this fear ever go to go away?"

Typically in the month of May, Hopi men would

be at their fields cleaning and preparing for this year's planting season. I know I love going outside after a horrible winter season because you can't do really do anything out there but look at the snow cover mesas and wish for more excellent weather. But lately, this year has been full of wind, and windy it is! Oh, I'm not too fond of the wind and what it brings. Now I know the wind is good for cooling the hot weather off, but this wind is something else. I now see hills created because of the blowing sand, and I see new valleys made by erosion. Hopi farmers don't like the wind, they don't like the blowing sand, and they don't like that they must sit inside and wish they were outside tending to their fields.

My grandmother said that this wind is a "copycat" of our emotions and how we feel towards one another. We're not nice to one another, and we're not happy with the world today. So, this wind is copying us, imitating how we are. So, this brings me to ask you all; How can we work together to make it right like before? How can we as a Hopi Tribe become the peaceful people the white man said we are?

Now I'm not a perfect cat, I have enemies and haters, but that doesn't make me an evil cat. It makes me a small "star-dust-carbon-filled" mammal trying to get by in this world.

My So'oh once said that we are not born evil, we are taught to be evil, and that's how we grow up. When we see that evil is the only way to live, we make that our way of life. So, are you evil? Are you a good person?

During one of the Tribal Council meetings, they talked about transparency and that it would be practical for people to know what the government is doing for the Hopi people. But it seems lately that

transparency means "not to utilize technology like the local radio station or the local newspaper" to inform the public about their "transparency." Could this weather and wind be hiding something bigger? Is the weather and wind telling us about something to come? Are we not utilizing what is around us to our benefit?

Times are changing, and we should change with it; I know that sounds so cliché from like a convoluted cat spewing questions, just to take up space in this column but let me assure you that the way Hopis think is still similar to the 1950's way of thinking, where women were women and men were the leaders of the Hopi society. Today, in some ways, it is still like that, and we will always be stuck in the past. We will never move forward with the changing times. Yes, I know the past was great because we loved one another. Today we can do that, and we can love one another like in the past, too. We can still honor the past and its accomplishment, but we must move forward to start to see a brighter future. History is excellent because it teaches us things, but the past can also be wrong and wasted if we never learn from the past.

So, my advice to you is that we can do so much by learning from Mother Nature, and I think we Hopis lost that way to tap into that knowledge; we are so wrapped up in ourselves and thinking if we do certain things, we could be happy. Still, we can never be satisfied when we try to find happiness. Happiness will come to us; naturally, we just need to keep our minds open to let it in, but then again my advice is just a cat's way of thinking.

Want to send Larry something? Send to: PO BOX 123, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

Want to send Larry email? Send to: meowatlarry@gmail.com

Job Announcement

HOPI TRIBE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION IS SEEKING APPLICANTS TO FILL TWO (2) VACANCIES ON THE CURRENT BOARD

- EXPIRATION TERM FOR HOPI/TEWA POSITION: 3-YEAR TERM ENDING JULY 2025
- EXPIRATION TERM FOR AT-LARGE POSITION: 4-YEAR TERM ENDING JULY 2026

The Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation is a federally chartered Section 17 Corporation, wholly owned by the Hopi Tribe. The HTEDC is established under federal charter provisions making it distinct and separate from the Hopi Tribe. A Board of seven directors governs the HTEDC. After an interview process, the Board members are appointed by the Hopi Tribal Council.

All Directors are required to meet the qualifications set forth in the HTEDC By-laws and must pass a mandatory background check.

Interested applicants may request a Board packet or more information by contacting the HTEDC at 928-522-8675 or csmiley@htedc.net

The packet includes information about HTEDC, its mission and the roles and responsibilities of a Board of Director member.

DEADLINE FOR RESUMES IS JUNE 1, 2025



Job Announcement

HOPI TRIBE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION IS SEEKING AN APPLICANT TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE CURRENT BOARD

- EXPIRATION TERM FOR HOPI/TEWA POSITION: 3-YEAR TERM ENDING JULY 2025

The Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation is a federally chartered Section 17 Corporation, wholly owned by the Hopi Tribe. The HTEDC is established under federal charter provisions making it distinct and separate from the Hopi Tribe. A Board of seven directors governs the HTEDC. After an interview process, the Board members are appointed by the Hopi Tribal Council.

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ARTICLES:

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

PRESS RELEASES:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Letters should not exceed 250 words and must include the name of the author and complete contact information (address, phone number or email address)

and the headline and date of the article on which you are commenting. Anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be published. The Tutuveni Editorial Board reviews all submissions and reserves the right not to publish letters it considers to be highly sensitive or potentially offensive to readers, or that may be libelous or slanderous in nature.

OPINION EDITORIALS:

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

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

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

CIRCULATION

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

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Job Announcement Hopi Telecommunications

Hopi Telecommunications, Inc. (HTI) in Keams Canyon, Arizona is currently seeking a qualified candidate to join the HTI team.

CURRENT OPENING

• Customer Service Representative (CSR)

CLOSING DATE: May 6, 2022

HTI is seeking a highly motivated individual with excellent customer service skills for its Customer Service Representative (CSR) position. Under the direct supervision of the Accountant, this role is responsible for the day-to-day customer service duties and responsibilities with excellent communication skills.

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

HTEDC is seeking an Accounting Assistant.

The Accounting Assistant supports and assist the overall Accounting Department with assigned tasks and job duties from the entities of the corporation and CFO.

Selected applicants must have: A professional, positive attitude with management, co-workers, and general public; Ensure all communication is clear and concise; Follow other duties as assigned by immediate supervisor or CFO.

- Three or more years of accounting experience
- Knowledge in standard office procedures
- Ability to perform simple accounting reconciliation

For more information or submit resume, please contact Courtney Erickson at (928)522-8675 or email cerickson@htedc.net

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

HTEDC is seeking a General Manager for the Hopi Cultural Center.

The GM is responsible for all areas of the property operations as well as the successful coordination and directing of activities within the Hopi Cultural Center.

Selected applicants must have: A professional, positive attitude with employees, co-workers, and general public; Maintain product and service quality standards; and assist employees in maintaining a seamless, positive experience for guests in all aspects of the Hopi Cultural Center.

- Assist in preparing annual budget
- Ensures that HCC is always maintained
- Maintain product and service quality standards
- Demonstrate a proactive and enthusiastic attitude in providing excellent customer service
- Promote teamwork and act as a positive role model
- Ability to communicate and multi-task in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to anticipate and solve problems
- Minimum 5-year knowledge and experience in hospitality management
- Possess a four-year college degree or equivalent experience

For more information, please contact Cindy Smiley at (928) 522-8675 or email csmith@htedc.net

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US boarding school investigative report released



This July 8, 2021 image of a photograph archived at the Center for Southwest Research at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico, shows a group of Indigenous students who attended the Ramona Industrial School in Santa Fe. The late 19th century image is among many in the Horatio Oliver Ladd Photograph Collection that are related to the boarding school. (AP Photo/Susan Montoya Bryan)

Kalle Benallie
Indian Country Today

The U.S. Department of Interior released its investigative report Wednesday on the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative. It's being called the first volume of the report and comes nearly a year after the department announced a "comprehensive" review.

Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, Bryan Newland, assistant secretary for Indian Affairs, Deborah Parker who is the chief executive officer of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition and James LaBelle Sr., a boarding school survivor and the first vice president of the coalition's board, spoke at a news conference in Washington announcing the report's findings.

"The consequences of federal Indian boarding school policies—including the intergenerational trauma caused by the family separation and cultural eradication inflicted upon generations of children as young as 4 years old — are heartbreaking and undeniable," Haaland said in a statement. "We continue to see the evidence of this attempt to forcibly assimilate Indigenous people in the disparities that communities face. It is my priority to not only give voice to the survivors and descendants of federal Indian boarding school policies, but also to address the lasting legacies of these policies so Indigenous Peoples can continue to grow and heal."

Newland led the over 100-page report, which includes historical records of boarding school locations and their names, and the first official list of burial sites.

The findings show from 1819 to 1969, the federal Indian boarding school system consisted of 408 federal schools across 37 states, some territories at that time, including 21 schools in Alaska and seven schools in Hawai'i. Some of these schools operated across multiple sites. The list includes religious mission schools that received federal support, however, government funding streams were

complex therefore, all religious schools receiving federal, Indian trust and treaty funds are likely not included. The final list of Indian boarding schools will surely grow as the investigation continues. For instance, the number of Catholic Indian boarding schools receiving direct funding alone is at least 113 according to records at the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions.

About 50 percent of federal Indian boarding schools may have received support or involvement from religious institutions or organizations including funding, infrastructure and personnel, Newland said.

The federal government, at times, paid them on a per capita basis for the children to enter into the schools.

Approximately 53 different schools had been identified with marked or unmarked burial sites. Specific locations of the burial sites will not be released to protect against grave robbing, vandalism and other desecration. The department expects the number to increase as the investigation continues.

In June 2021, Haaland announced an Interior investigation in federal Indian boarding schools to make "a comprehensive review of the troubled legacy of federal boarding school policies" from as early as the 19th century.

She said the initiative was created after the discovery of 215 unmarked graves of Indigenous children by Canada's Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation at the Kamloops Indian Residential School in May 2021.

The first volume of the report highlights some of the harsh conditions children endured at the schools. Children's Indigenous names were changed to English names; children's hair were cut; the use of their Native languages, religions and cultural practices were discouraged or prevented; and the children were organized into units to perform military drills.

The report cites findings from the 1928 Meriam report in which the Interior acknowledged "frankly and

unequivocally that the provisions for the care of Indian children in boarding schools are grossly inadequate.

Examples included descriptions of accommodations at select boarding schools such as the White Earth Boarding school in Minnesota where two children slept in one bed, the Kickapoo Boarding School in Kansas where three children shared a bed and the Rainy Mountain Boarding School in Oklahoma where, "single beds pushed together so closely to preclude passage between them and each bed has two or more occupants."

The 1969 Kennedy Report, cited in the Department investigation, noted that rampant physical, sexual and emotional abuse: disease; malnourishment; overcrowding; and lack of health care at Indian boarding schools are well-documented.

It also found schools focused on "manual labor and vocational skills that left American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian graduates with employment options often irrelevant to the industrial U.S. economy, further disrupting Tribal economies."

Federal boarding schools first started with the Indian Civilization Act of 1819 when the government enacted laws and policies to establish and support Indian boarding schools. For more than 150 years, Indigenous children were taken from their communities and forced into boarding schools that focused on assimilation. An unknown number of religious Indian boarding schools, funded by private and government funds, predate the Civilization Act by at least 100 years.

Native land and wealth diminished

In a major finding, the report documents the use of tribal trust and treaty funds for the federal boarding school system as well as mission schools operated by religious institutions and organizations. Although the total amount of these funds used to directly fund schools is unknown, according to an investigation by Indian Country Today, more than \$30 million in today's

CONT ON PG. 17

US boarding school investigative report released, Cont.

dollars were siphoned away during a nine year period by Catholic schools alone.

The U.S. also set apart tracts of Native lands for use by religious institutions and organizations. According to an ongoing investigation by Indian Country Today, a large portion of this land may still be held by churches.

Indeed, the relationship between major religious denominations and the federal government regarding Indian mission schools is described as “an unprecedented delegation of power to church bodies that were given the right to nominate new agents, direct educational and other activities on the reservations.

Although the report makes little mention of accountability for religious organizations that operated boarding schools, it does indicate that non-federal entities will be given support in releasing their records associated with the schools.

Parker said the organization's collaboration with the Interior found an additional 89 boarding schools that did not receive any federal funding.

As part of the initiative and in response to recommendations from the report, Haaland announced the launch of “The Road to Healing” year-long tour. It’ll consist of a tour across the country to allow boarding school survivors to share their stories, help connect communities with trauma-informed support and to gather a permanent oral history.

The report also points to the 2019 watershed Running Bear studies, funded by the National Institute of Health. This research contains the first medical studies to systematically and quantitatively show that the Indian boarding school system experience continues to impact the present day health of adult boarding school survivors.

Newland cited the need for more investigation because of the COVID-19 pan-

demic and its resulting closures of federal facilities that affected obtaining and reviewing documents and the department’s limited funds at that time.

The second volume will be aided by a \$7 million investment from Congress through fiscal year 2022. Newland recommended for it to include a list of marked and unmarked burial sites at federal Indian boarding schools — with names, ages, tribal affiliations of the children at those locations — an approximation of the total amount of federal funding used to support the boarding school system and to further probe the impacts on Indigenous communities. Additionally, the department wants to approximate the total number of children who attended the boarding schools.

“This report presents the opportunity for us to reorient federal policies to support the revitalization of Tribal languages and cultural practices to counteract nearly two centuries of federal policies aimed at their destruction,” Newland said in a statement. “Together, we can help begin a healing process for Indian Country, the Native Hawaiian Community and across the United States, from the Alaskan tundra to the Florida everglades, and everywhere in between.”

Opportunity to submit stories

On Thursday, members of Congress are holding a hearing at 1 p.m. ET, for the bill “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the US.” Rep. Sharice Davids, Ho-Chunk, is the lead sponsor of the bill.

The National Boarding School Healing Coalition is requesting people who attended a boarding school or are a descendent of a boarding school attendee to submit their written testimonies to the House of Natural Resources Committee by May 26. Email submissions to HNRCDOcs@mail.house.gov and CC NABS at info@nabshc.org.

Climate limit close to being broken, scientists warn

This story originally appeared in the Guardian and is part of Covering Climate Now, a global journalism collaboration strengthening coverage of the climate story.

Damian Carrington
Environment editor

The year the world breaches for the first time the 1.5C global heating limit set by international governments is fast approaching, a new forecast shows.

The probability of one of the next five years surpassing the limit is now 50 percent, scientists led by the UK Met Office found. As recently as 2015, there was zero chance of this happening in the following five years. But this surged to 20 percent in 2020 and 40 percent in 2021. The global average temperature was 1.1C above pre-industrial levels in 2021.

It is also close to certain – 93 percent – that by 2026 one year will be the hottest ever recorded, beating 2016, when a natural El Niño climate event supercharged temperatures. It is also near certain that the average temperature of the next five years will be higher than the past five years, as the climate crisis intensifies.

“The 1.5C figure is not some random statistic. It is rather an indicator of the point at which climate impacts will become increasingly harmful for people and indeed the entire planet,” said Prof Petteri Taalas, head of the World Meteorological Organization, which published the new report.

“For as long as we continue to emit greenhouse gases, temperatures will continue to rise,” said Taalas. “Alongside that, our oceans will continue to become warmer and more acidic, sea ice and glaciers will continue to melt, sea level will continue to rise and our weather will become more extreme.”

Natural climate cycles can nudge global temperatures up or down. But the Paris Agreement requires nations to hold the underlying rise, driven by human activities, to well below 2C, as well as pursuing

efforts to limit the increase to 1.5C. The world’s scientists warned in 2018 that 1.5C of global heating will bring severe impacts to billions of people.

“A single year of exceedance above 1.5C does not mean we have breached the iconic threshold of the Paris Agreement, but it does reveal that we are edging ever closer to a situation where 1.5C could be exceeded for an extended period,” said Dr Leon Hermanson, at the Met Office.

“The possibility of surpassing the 1.5C threshold, even if only for a year, is worrying,” said Dr Andrew King, at the University of Melbourne. “Our greenhouse gas emissions are still at near-record highs and until we get emissions down to net zero we’re going to continue to see global warming. Rapid and drastic emissions reductions are needed urgently.”

“To actually exceed the [Paris] target we’d have to be above 1.5C even in a ‘normal’ year” unaffected by natural climate variations, said Prof Steven Sherwood at the University of New South Wales. “But the report reminds us that we are getting uncomfortably close to this target.”

The annual forecast harnesses the best prediction systems from climate centres around the world to produce practical information for decision-makers. It found a higher chance of rain in 2022 compared with the average of the past 30 years in northern Europe, the Sahel, north-east Brazil and Australia, while drier conditions than usual are forecast for south-western Europe and south-western North America.

Prof Taalas also warned of especially rapid heating at the north pole: “Arctic warming is disproportionately high and what happens in the Arctic affects all of us.” The shrinking of sea ice and its knock-on effects have been linked to extreme weather events in Europe, the North America and Asia, including heatwaves, floods and even snowstorms.

The forecast indicates that the rise in Arctic temperatures will be three times greater than the global average over the next five years.



'Metrics of economic well-being' show Native Americans underserved



Rows of hydropanels collect water on Dec. 7, 2021, in Warm Springs, Oregon. The massive infrastructure bill signed earlier this year promises to bring change to some Native American tribes that lack clean water or indoor plumbing through the largest single infusion of money into Indian Country. (AP Photo/Nathan Howard)

Mark Trahant
Indian Country Today

A new report by the U.S. Congress explores “persistent structural barriers” that limit economic opportunity in Indigenous communities.

“Across metrics of economic well-being, Native Americans are disproportionately underserved, economically vulnerable and limited in their access pathways to building wealth,” according to a report by the Joint Economic Committee, a body that includes both members of the U.S. Senate and House.

“These long standing inequities have left Native communities much more vulnerable than their counterparts to the negative impact of economic shocks and public health crises.”

The report, “Native American Communities Continue to Face Barriers to Opportunity that Stifle Economic Mobility,” was released Friday morning.

The report “puts a lot of the socio-economic conditions of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, American Indians, in perspective,” said Randall Akee, one of the authors of the report and an associate professor at the University of California Los Angeles. Akee is Native Hawaiian. “And it really does a great job of summarizing a number of different outcomes, a number of different domains, and puts it into a language that’s digestible and understandable for, you know, a broad swath of the population so that it’s not ... caught up in jargonistic-type terms.”

The report looked at barriers in health, education, getting jobs, and other disparities in the labor market. The report found that Native American households and businesses also struggle to access credit and financing on equal terms with other Americans, hindering the growth of these enterprises and the creation of household wealth.

“Expanding economic well-being and mobility for

Native Americans will require keeping up with trust and treaty obligations and a broad basket of proactive structural solutions,” the report said.

The Democrats on the Joint Committee said in a news release that more needs to be done to improve economic conditions. Republicans, led by Vice Chairman Mike Lee, a Senator from Utah, are members of the Joint Economic Committee but did not comment on the content of the report.

The Joint Committee’s chairman, Rep. Don Byer, D-Virginia, said Congress must do more to promote an economy that works for all. “As this report underscores, there is much more to be done to remove structural barriers and ensure all Native American communities can contribute to — and benefit from — economic growth,” he said.

“This report from the Joint Economic Committee shows how closely related issues of health, economic stability, housing, and education truly are,” said Rep. Sharice Davids, Ho-Chunk, a Democrat from Kansas who serves on the committee. “To address the pervasive wealth gap that Native American families face, we must think broadly about lowering barriers to homeownership, increasing educational opportunities, and improving access to health care.”

For example, the lack of health insurance and economic inequality has resulted in worse health outcomes.

“Combined with the chronic underfunding of tribal health care and restricted access to hospitals and grocery stores, this has led to disproportionately high rates of chronic health conditions among Native communities,” the report said. “Throughout the pandemic, Native Americans have experienced higher rates of COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations and death than their white counterparts.”

The Democrats on the committee said that the next

steps involve several public policy tools, starting with President Joe Biden’s American Rescue Plan, which includes an investment of more than \$31 billion into tribal communities, the largest federal investment in Indian Country ever.

Akee said the report puts a lot of the data out there in a way that advocates can use to shape policy.

For example, both tribal governments and enterprises were hit hard during the pandemic.

“This caused a crucial revenue source for tribes to disappear, such that in the fall of 2020, over half of tribally owned enterprises reported revenue losses of more than 20%. As a result, enterprises have fewer revenues to allocate to tribal governments, which results in cuts to essential community services,” the Joint Economic Committee found. “In a survey of tribal governments, 75% responded that they had been forced to reduce services related to economic development because of falling revenue streams.”

Akee and other researchers are exploring the economic impact of the pandemic.

“Communities closed off, reservations as well as counties or cities, municipalities,” said Akee. “And the dramatic change that occurred in these communities ... sort of going less to grocery stores and more to convenience stores, and what that might have meant in the short and, maybe even longer terms” when considering the impact from COVID.

We are still learning what happened. Casinos closed, revenues dropped, and at the same time there was a child tax credit and new federal dollars designated for tribal communities.

“I don’t think we’ve gotten the data yet to do a real good assessment of the positive impacts that have come from these other sorts of these investments. And I think some of them still haven’t come to

CONT ON PG. 21

‘Metrics of economic well-being’ show Native Americans underserved, Cont.

fruition, some of this infrastructure stuff that's also cited here. I think we're going to see that, you know, in years to come.”

The committee also cited the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, including \$11 billion for tribal entities, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act with some \$3 billion in funding for the Tribal Transportation Program, \$3.5 billion for the Indian Health Service Sanitation Facilities Construction Program, and another \$2 billion in spending for broadband connectivity.

The creation of wealth is a huge topic in the report. It said that the typical White family has more than twice the wealth of a typical Native American family. “Because wealth serves as an enabler of economic opportunity, this disadvantage translates into other inequities in housing and beyond,” the report said. “Despite a strong preference for homeownership, a smaller share of Native households own homes today than in 2000.”

Native households are disproportionately harmed by lack of access to banking services, and they are more likely to be underbanked than any other minority group in the United States. Similarly, Native entrepreneurs are more likely to face barriers to obtaining credit, and report a greater reliance on informal banking financing, like credit cards, for business startup and growth.

One reason for the disparity in home ownership and wealth is the lack of access to credit. The Joint Committee said Native American households are more likely to be “unbanked” and suggested expanding access to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) to help facilitate more access to credit.

And, the report found, even when private capital reaches Native Americans, they are more likely to pay a high premium that limits their ability to accumulate equity and build wealth. The Center for Indian Country Development at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis finds that loans with Native Americans as the primary borrower have an average interest rate that is nearly 2 percentage points above the average loan for non-Native Americans.

That study found that growing up on Native tribal reservations with reduced access to banking is equivalent to a significantly lower likelihood of having a credit report, lower credit scores and a loss in annual earnings of \$6,000.

The report identified other persistent conditions such as poverty and health disparities. It said federal efforts to provide health care, in exchange for tracts of land, has “fallen short.”

“The Indian Health Service (IHS) is consistently and chronically underfunded with the capacity to spend \$3,333 per user on average compared to \$9,404 for the Department of Veterans Affairs and \$12,744 for Medicare,” the report said. “Unlike other federal health programs, IHS does not receive advance appropriations, making it difficult to plan long-term health infrastructure such as facility improvements and health professional recruitment and retention. This lack of funding coupled with the fact that tribal communities tend to be in rural, remote or isolated locations, has led to a devastating and dangerous lack of access to hospitals and adequate health care.”

Nearly half of those who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native alone are not covered by either public or private health insurance, a rate higher than that of almost every other group, the report said.

Other key findings:

Approximately one in six Native American families lives below the poverty level.

In March 2022, just 59 percent of Native Americans aged 16 and older were participating in the labor force (employed or searching for work) compared to 62 percent of all individuals.

Native Americans are much less likely than their non-Native peers to graduate from high school or attend college.

“Economic success depends not only on whether an individual received an education but on whether they got a good enough education to lead to a well-paying career,”

the report said. “In recent decades, the economic returns to education have increased substantially, and more education is becoming more frequently needed to achieve a basic level of financial success.”

The hunt for data

One building block that’s often missing from economic development in Indigenous communities is data. A report this week from the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis says the lack of high quality data stands in the way of economic progress and tribes’ ability to implement effective public policy.

“Unfortunately, individuals, businesses, and policymakers in Indian Country don’t have the same quantity and quality of data that are available elsewhere,” the Federal Reserve said in the report, “An urgent priority: Accurate and timely Indian Country data.”

The report points out three data challenges: inadequate sample sizes, mismatched geographies, and unique data characteristics. The problem of sample size is often a reason for data erasure, resulting in an “asterisk” to mask the uncertainty from a small population base. Then there is the problem with geography, matching tribal nations and communities with economic activity that might be just outside those boundaries.

Perhaps the most important question might be the third challenge: What information does Indian Country need?

“For example, many tribal governments own and operate enterprises that simultaneously shape regional economic activity and provide much of tribal governments’ fiscal resources,” the Fed report said.

“Another unique feature of Indian Country is the importance of tribal affiliation and enrollment — two designations that are often not indicated in existing surveys. And tribal communities may care about measures that reflect Indigenous understandings of well-being and economic success but are typically not recorded in data, like proficiency in a Native language or tribal definitions of Indigenous wealth.”



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Tribes credited with elevating vaccinations in rural Arizona



Denise Begaye, an X-ray technician with the Monument Valley Health Center, takes a break from COVID-19 testing outside the center in Oljato-Monument Valley, San Juan County, on April 16. (Photo by Kristin Murphy, Deseret News via AP, File)

Terry Tang
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Mary Francis had no qualms about being a poster child for COVID-19 vaccinations on the Navajo Nation, once a virus hot spot. The Navajo woman's face and words grace a digital flyer asking people on tribal land to get vaccinated "to protect the shidine'e (my people)."

"I was happy to put the information out there and just building that awareness and in having folks feel comfortable enough, or curious enough, to read the material," said Francis, who lives in Page, near the Utah border, and manages care packages and vaccine drives for a Navajo and Hopi relief fund.

In a pandemic that has seen sharp divides between urban and rural vaccination rates nationwide, Arizona is the only state where rural vaccine rates outpaced more populated counties, according to a recent report from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Public health experts believe the trend was mainly fueled by a group that lost a disproportionate number of lives to COVID-19: Native Americans.

Tribal communities were left more vulnerable to the virus because of underlying health issues like diabetes and heart disease, as well as multiple generations sharing a home. Cases and deaths piled on despite curfews, weekend lockdowns, mask mandates and business shutdowns. By April 2020, the Navajo Nation — which encompasses parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah — declared it had been hit harder by the coronavirus than any other tribe.

The devastating loss, particularly of elders, drove a push for vaccinations as an act of selflessness. Holly Van Lew, co-leader of a federal Indian Health Service taskforce rolling out vaccines nationwide, credits Navajo Nation officials with constantly emphasizing that message.

"It really comes from a different perspective. Instead of 'You should get your COVID-19 vaccines too,' (it's) 'We should all as community members protect each other,'" said Lew, a clinical pharmacist at the Phoenix Indian

Medical Center.

Native Americans make up significant portions of five of the seven counties designated as rural in the CDC report. A 2020 Census survey shows they account for nearly three-fourths of the 71,000 people in Apache County and almost half of the 110,000 residents in Navajo County. They are an estimated 10 percent to 15 percent in three smaller counties, Gila, Graham and La Paz.

Arizona has 15 counties total. The CDC determined counties were rural if they either had no substantial "urban cluster" or one with a population between 10,000 and 50,000.

The overall percentage of people in those counties who were vaccine-eligible and got at least partly vaccinated between December 2020 and January this year was 86.1 percent. It was 69.3 percent in urban counties, the report said.

Nationally, urban counties outshone rural ones 75.4 percent to 58.5 percent.

A different picture emerges from the state's data. Dr. Bob England, former Maricopa County Department of Public Health director, said state dashboard numbers lead to a calculation of an estimated 70 percent rate in urban counties and a 66 percent rate in rural counties.

However, Arizona's Department of Health Services doesn't receive vaccine data from the Indian Health Service, which provides health care to more than 2.5 million Native Americans and Alaska Natives on and off tribal land.

"If I adjust data that's included in the CDC report but not on the state dashboard, then you could 100 percent say with certainty that the only reason why those rural counties were ranked higher than urban is because of tribal participation in vaccination campaigns," said Will Humble, former department director. "There's no way it could be anything else."

The two rural counties in the CDC report where Native Americans have little presence were Santa Cruz, near the U.S.-Mexico border, and Greenlee, which touches the New Mexico state line.

Santa Cruz had an extremely high vaccination rate of

146 percent among a population of roughly 46,000. Officials say that figure is because of laborers from Mexico as well as visitors. Seasonal workers in produce warehouses, a major industry there, got the jab through the county and University of Arizona Health Sciences-run mobile health units in border communities, said Jeff Terrell, the county's health director.

"You look at the numbers that we've put out there," Terrell said. "If you think about the vaccination sites at the border as well. If you add that into the county — yes, I think that was a contributing factor."

For the counties with high Native populations, outreach included some unique strategies. The IHS taskforce collaborated with federal, state and local partners on vaccine clinics and radio and print ads in Native languages. They also met people where they lived. Public health nurses went door-to-door in tribal communities and vaccinated entire families, Van Lew said.

Organizations like the Navajo and Hopi Families COVID-19 Relief Fund have hosted vaccine drives with T-shirts and gift cards. They created TikTok videos, newspaper ads and even "influencer" posters for social media. The influencers are trusted tribal members like professional golfer Notah Begay III, who is Navajo, said Wendy Atcitty, the fund's program manager for public health education.

"One of the most important steps of regaining the health of our communities is getting a COVID-19 vaccine!" reads a quote on a poster of a smiling Begay. "I received mine and I feel great!"

Tribal vaccine drives faced plenty of resisters. No one knows that more than Hector Begaye, who was hesitant to get vaccinated but had to so he could work for the Navajo and Hopi Families COVID-19 Relief Fund.

Even with all the incentives, he can't convince everyone.

"All we can do is share our personal stories and encouragement and acceptance," Begaye said. "In this line of work, as much as we want people to be boosted, we can't force it down their throat."

Reclaiming ancestral homelands beyond state borders

The Kaw Nation's Sacred Red Rock called "In 'zhúje 'waxóbe, was a place of cultural ceremony and gathering for the Kaw people prior to removal to Oklahoma in 1872. The stone was moved from the Kaw's homelands near the Kansas River and Shunganunga Creek, just outside Topeka, to Robinson Park in Lawrence, Kan., as part of Lawrence's 75th anniversary celebration in 1929, and was fitted with a plaque celebrating the pioneers of Kansas. (Photo provided by James Pepper Henry)

Nancy Marie Spears
Gaylord News

Tribes across the nation are increasingly buying back or being gifted back property in their ancestral homelands, either to build economic sustainability or to manage cultural preservation sites.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Galen Cloud said he was filled with sobering thoughts the last time he visited his tribe's homeland. As he drove the 10 hours from Okmulgee, Okla., to Oxford, Ala., — complaining about traffic, he recalled how his ancestors had to walk that distance against their wills.

"You think about it and you're filled with madness, and then you just feel the pain and then you just hate to imagine what all they went through, just to get here," Cloud said.

Cloud has served since January as a Muscogee Nation councilman. Before that, as historic preservation officer for Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, he gained a deep insight into a history he said few know about.

Cloud said if someone went to Muscogee Nation's ancestral homelands in Alabama or Georgia, and looked for Muscogee people, they wouldn't find many.

"There's no one down there, because we all are here in Oklahoma now," Cloud said. "It's really important that we go back and let people know that we are still thriving. We are still here. There are still people who think that we still live in houses without running water."

Muscogee Nation and several of its ceremonial tribal towns ended up in Indian Territory, which became Oklahoma in 1907. Since before Cloud became a member of the Muscogee Nation Council, the tribe's principal and second chiefs along with Oxford's mayor have worked to protect ceremonial lands in Oxford, where the ceremonial town of the Arbeka people was located pre-removal, according to RaeLynn A. Butler, Muscogee Nation's Historic and Cultural Preservation Department manager.

Cloud said the city officials met with ceremonial folks whose ancestors were from the Arbeka Tribal Town, and then Muscogee Nation, to protect one of the largest ceremonial town's lands around Oxford.

"When we were forcibly removed from there, the Arbeka

people just had whatever they could carry," Cloud said. "The main thing they brought was the fire that still burns today."

James Pepper Henry, Kaw Nation vice chairman and director of the First Americans Museum, was involved in the early negotiations that led to his tribe purchasing ancestral homelands in 2002 near Council Grove, Kan.

He said the small purchase of land two decades ago is a drop in the bucket for true recovery of Kaw Nation's homelands.

"That land we purchased was the last vestige of our reservation lands in Kansas," Pepper Henry said. "The Kaw Nation had 22 million acres in Kansas, and starting from around 1815, then through a subsequent series of treaties, our lands had shrunk to less than about 100,000 acres."

Council Grove, now home to the Kaw's Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park, was the last place the Kaw people lived before they were forcibly removed in 1873 to what is now Kaw City, Okla., situated on the Arkansas River northwest of Ponca City.

"From 1850 to 1970, we went from 22 million acres to 10 acres of land," he said. "That 10 acres was our cemetery in Oklahoma."

Pepper Henry said his mission as both vice chairman and citizen has been raising awareness about the Kaw or Kanza people, where Kansas got its state name.

"We're virtually invisible there," Pepper Henry said. "They see the name Kanza here and there, but they don't make that connection that this is a real, living, breathing group of people that still exist."

Something still disconnected from the Heritage Park is the Kaw's Sacred Red Rock, called "In 'zhúje 'waxóbe," which will soon be returned to its rightful location, Pepper Henry said, thanks to a \$5 million grant from the Mellon Foundation, a private foundation that supports humanities projects.

Another Oklahoma tribe reclaiming homelands in Kansas is the Shawnee Tribe. According to a news release from the tribe, the Kansas State Historical Society has returned the 0.52-acre Shawnee Indian Cemetery to the Shawnee people.

Osage Nation Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear said his tribe is making progress toward establishing economic growth in its ancestral homelands, having purchased 28 acres in Osage Beach, Mo., for a hotel and casino resort.

Osage Beach is the location of what was the largest Osage village before removal in 1808 to present-day Pawhuska, Okla.

Osage Casino CEO Byron Bighorse said the project will bring an estimated \$60 million investment to the region, including new jobs, tourism and revenue to the Lake of the Ozarks community.

"Phase one includes construction of a casino, sports bar, restaurant and meeting space," Bighorse said. "It also includes a hotel, which will have general hotel rooms, suites, a fitness and exercise facility, a pool and hot tub and a pool bar."

Standing Bear said in his eight years as principal chief, the tribe has purchased back about 55,000 acres in Oklahoma in addition to the reclamation of 160 acres of ancestral homelands in Kansas. The Osage had lost 90 percent of their Oklahoma land after removal, from nearly 1.5 million acres to under 150,000, he said.

"When I ran for office, I said this administration would be built on three pillars: land, our language and our cultural history," Standing Bear said.

Wyandotte Nation Chief Billy Friend said the Wyandotte people haven't been able to visit a church on ancestral homelands due to the pandemic and travel restrictions, making the land reclamation the tribe's been able to accomplish all the more important.

The church where Wyandotte ancestors once learned to read, write and worship was given back to the tribe from Methodists in Upper Sandusky, Ohio. The tribe in 2015 purchased 16 acres of ancestral homelands in what is now Brownstown, Mich., and then, Friend said, in 2018 began efforts to reclaim the church in Ohio, which came to fruition in 2019.

Friend said the Wyandotte people will visit the church in July for the first time since the pandemic began. Not visiting these past two years, he said, has been difficult.

"I think it's had a really big impact on many of us and especially those that are getting older, to not be able to go back and relive that experience or have that experience for the first time," Friend said.

US reckoning with role in boarding schools



Interior Secretary Deb Haaland at the Interior Department's press conference on its federal boarding school investigation in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. (Photo by Jourdan Bennett-Begaye, Indian Country Today)

Felicia Fonseca
Associated Press

Deb Haaland is pushing the U.S. government to reckon with its role in boarding schools like no other Cabinet secretary could — backed by personal experience, a struggle with losing her own Native language and a broader community that has felt the devastating impacts.

The agency she oversees — the Interior Department — released a first-of-its-kind report this week that named the 408 schools the federal government supported to strip Native people of their cultures and identities. At least 500 children died at some of the schools, but that number is expected to reach into the thousands or tens of thousands as more research is done.

“We are uniquely positioned to assist in the effort to undercover the dark history of these institutions that have haunted our families for too long,” she said Wednesday during a news conference. “As a pueblo woman, it is my responsibility and, frankly, it’s my legacy.”

The U.S. government hasn’t been open to investigating itself to uncover the truth about boarding schools that operated from the late 18th century to the late 1960s. It’s possible now because people who know first-hand the persistent trauma caused by the boarding school system are positioned in the U.S. government.

Still, the work to uncover the truth and create a path for healing will rely on having financial resources in Indian Country, which the federal government has chronically underfunded.

Tribes will have to navigate federal laws on repatriation to take Native children who died and are buried at former boarding school sites home, if desired, and might have no recourse to access burial sites on private land. The causes of death included disease, accidental injuries and abuse.

Boarding school survivors also might be hesitant to recount the painful past and trust a government whose policies were to eradicate tribes and, later, assimilate them under the veil of education. Some have welcomed the opportunity to share their stories for the first time.

Haaland, the first and only Native Cabinet secretary, has the support of President Joe Biden to investigate further. Congress has provided the Interior Department with \$7 million for its work on the next phase of the report, which will focus on burial sites, and identifying Native children and their ages. Haaland also said a year-long tour would seek to gather stories of boarding school survivors for an oral history collection.

A bill that’s previously been introduced in Congress to create a truth and healing commission on boarding schools got its first hearing Thursday. It’s sponsored by two Native American U.S. representatives — Democrat Sharice Davids of Kansas, who is Ho-Chunk, and Republican Tom Cole of Oklahoma, who is Chickasaw.

“Working with the Interior, knowing that there are representatives in the federal government who understand these experiences not just on a historical record but deep within their selves, their own personal stories, really makes a difference,” said Deborah Parker, chief executive of the National Native American Boarding Schools Healing Coalition and a member of the Tulalip Tribes.

More than two decades ago, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Gover issued an apology for the emotional, psychological, physical and spiritual violence committed against children at the off-reservation schools. Then in 2009, President Barack Obama quietly signed off on an apology of sorts for “violence, maltreatment and neglect inflicted on Native Peoples by citizens of the United States.” The language was buried deep in a multi-billion-dollar defense spending bill.

The proposed commission would have a broader scope than the Interior’s investigation to seek records with subpoena power. It would make recommendations to the federal government within five years of its passage, possible in the U.S. House but more difficult in the U.S. Senate.

Starting with the Indian Civilization Act of 1819, the U.S. enacted laws and policies to establish and support Native American Boarding Schools. The goal was to civilize Native Americans, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. Religious and private institutions often received federal funding and were willing partners.

Capt. Richard Henry Pratt described the essence of the federal boarding schools in a speech he gave in 1892 where he said, “Kill the Indian and save the man.”

Minnesota resident Mitch Walking Elk ran away multiple times from boarding schools he attended in the late 1950s and early ‘60s because “my spirit knew it wasn’t a good place for me,” he said.

Boarding schools aren’t the only thing that has led him to distrust the federal government, even as it seems willing to uncover the past. In 1864, Walking Elk’s ancestors from the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes were attacked in the Sand Creek Massacre. At least 200 people were killed, and victims’ bodies were mutilated.

“I have reservations about what’s going on right now because I don’t trust them,” said Walking Elk. “If Deb Haaland makes too many waves, the far right, the extremists will manufacture something to put the brakes on this.”

Boarding school survivor Ramona Klein testified before Congress on Thursday, describing seeing her mother cry as her children got on a big, green bus for boarding school, being scrubbed with a stiff brush once there, and sleeping under a scratchy wool Army blanket. She put on a large rubber hand when she spoke of being touched at the school at night “like no child’s body should be touched.”

“Being in that boarding school was the loneliest time of my life,” said Klein, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in North Dakota. “It has made it difficult for me to trust other people, including the people on this committee, with my emotions, my thoughts, my dreams and my physical being. And how could that not be the result?”

Republican Rep. Jay Obernolte of California said Congress would need to consider the financial investment in the proposed commission and whether those who serve would do so as a public service or be compensated.

“I’m not opposed to investing substantial taxpayer resources in this commission, but I think we need to be explicit about what those resources are,” he said Thursday.