HOPI CARES Committee Renamed Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee Effective August 23, 2022

Dangerous heat predicted to hit 3 times more often in the future

FEMA declares new strategy to engage tribes

Hopi Day School August 2022 book club reader

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HOPI CARES Committee Renamed Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee Effective August 23, 2022

By: Romalita Laban, Managing Editor

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – Tuesday, August 23, 2022 on the third day of presenting, discussing and contemplating amendments, Hopi Tribal Council approved Action Item #073-2022/H-060-2022 authorizing approval of the Resolution “With Regard to the Name, Scope and Composition of the CARES Act Committee and the Administering of ARPA Funds through the “Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee”

Hopi Tribal Council had previously accepted the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding in the amount of $86,475,726.98 which were authorized for COVID-19 Pandemic Expenditures via Tribal Council Resolution H-044-2021 and amendments in Resolution H-034-2022 included the acceptance of ALL funding from the ARPA and funding for Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars to be expended as authorized by the Act.

The presentation was the third day of continued presentations which occurred from August 11th through the final day on August 23rd when the Action Item was approved with amendments suggested by Hopi Tribal Council.

The three days of presentations included having Wilfred Gaseoma, Chief of Staff – Hopi Vice Chairman’s Office, who authored the Action Item, providing the lead presentation and answers to Hopi Tribal Council. On August 11, 2022 the first day of the presentation yielded a full audience which packed Hopi Tribal Chambers to capacity.

Members in the audience included Community Service Administrators from various Village Community Service Administrative Offices including Mark Talayumptewa, CSA Village of Kykotsmovi, Shawn Namoki, CSA Village of Sipaulovi, Chairperson of Newly Formed Board of Directors - Village of Tewa, Hopi Tribal Department staff including those from the Vice Chairman’s Office, Office of Financial Management, and Property and Procurement.

Hopi Tutuveni made an attempt on August 8, 2022 to request the initial Action Item Package, from the Hopi Tribe Secretary and which was read into record, The Information Request Form was not honored or returned until Tuesday, August 30, 2022 and did not have the original Action Item, as it was initially presented and for comparisons to be made with the final approved Resolution.

Hopi Tribal Council asked many questions and drew a lot of comparisons to the previously established CARES Act Committee which was originally formed through Hopi Tribal Council Resolutions H-032-2020, H-046-2020 and H-054-2020. Question posed included what plans the presenting author had regarding established priorities for use of the ARPA Funds, who would be placed on the newly formed Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee and whether any timelines could be proposed and presented.

Council expressed pointed concerns regarding past errors and investigations stemming from various projects completed via use of the CARES Act funding, as well as why certain individuals should or should not be included on the newly formed Committee. Expressions of concern took up a lot of discussion time and resulted in the Gaseoma providing pointed and defensive answers to Council before coming to a point of negotiating amendments and final Committee membership which were included in the approved Action Item #073-2022/H-060-2022.

The newly formed Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee shall consist of one representative from the following: the Budget Oversight Team, the Hopi Utilities Corporation, four (4) representatives from Village Community Service Administrators/Village Managers (Moenkopi, Third Mesa, Second Mesa and First Mesa), Hopi Tribal School (representative from elementary schools, Hopi Junior Senior High School), the Office of Community Planning and Economic Development, the Hopi Economic Development Committee, Vice Chairman, the Treasurer, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services, the Department of Natural Resources with Ad Hoc members consisting of Office of General Counsel, Finance Department, Procurement Office, Information Technology, Human Resources, Office of Real Estate Service and the Tribal Employment Rights Office.

Tutuveni staff reached out to the Hopi Tribal Secretary inquiring about when the initial meeting and convening of the Hopi Tribe Pandemic Recovery Committee will occur. The Secretary informed Tutuveni that, “The members of the Committee will be responsible for conducting business. The Tribal Secretary’s office hasn’t been delegated to assist in [the] their work.”

September is National “Recovery Month”

PRESS RELEASE
Submitted by: Bernadean Kachinhonga-va, HSAPC Mentor

Kykotsmovi, AZ - August 31, 2022 and the month of September is National “Recovery Month.” The HOPI Substance Abuse Prevention Center (HSAPC) looks forward to this month each year. It’s a celebration of personal growth. This month-long recognition is designed to educate people on issues surrounding mental health and substance use disorders. We celebrate the hard work of individuals in recovery. It’s also meant to provide support to family members, friends and those who support and love individuals in recovery from substance abuse and/or behavioral addiction disorders.

National “Recovery Month” started in 1989 under the name “Treatment Works!” It was intended as a way to honor the work of addiction professionals (therapists, physicians, nurses, mental health professionals, drug/recovery counselors, rehabilitation staff etc.) working with individuals. It is observed in the United States promoting and supporting new, evidence-based recovery and treatment modalities. The theme for 2022 is “Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community.” Everyone’s journey is different, and we are all in this together.

The HOPI Substance Abuse Prevention Center is celebrating recovery month by hosting a few events this month. The first event is the “Highway Clean Up” on Friday September 09, 2022 the meeting point is at the tree near junction Highway 264 & 87 at 7:30 a.m. The next event is the “Hand-drum Recovery Celebration” Friday September 30, 2022 at the KUYI parking lot area in Second Mesa, Ariz. from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will also be a food sale during the event. Come enjoy some live music, good food, and company. Both events welcome volunteers. These events are drug and substance free events. As a grant recipient of the Arizona’s Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith, and Family’s - Trauma Informed Substance Abuse Prevention Program (funds provided through SAMHSA), the HSAPC staff receive trauma informed care training and utilize strategies in our services. HSAPC mentors help individuals work through their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual healing journey. “We believe in honoring ourselves by living an honest, sober, balanced life.” Healing begins with you!

HSAPC mentors provide one to one mentoring services for youth and adults, group classes, community presentations, supportive programs for local schools, and cognitive restructuring for a positive recovery journey. All HSAPC services are free of charge, as we are a non-profit organization. We encourage all who are in their recovery journey to take it one day at a time; sometimes it’s one moment at a time. If you feel comfortable reaching out to HSAPC mentors, call 928-734-0300. You can also call Hopi Behavioral Health Services at 928-737-6300 to schedule an appointment, or call your local Behavioral Health facility.
Hopi Tribal Council Fourth Quarter Session September 1, 2022 AGENDA

"UNFINISHED BUSINESS"

1. Discussion of a motion to vacate judgment in the Flagstaff v. Hopi Tribe case – Fred Lomayesva, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel – Tabled

2. Action Item #070-2022 – To set aside funds to pay a Judgment for Attorney Fees in Hopi Tribe v. Arizona Snowbowl Resort Limited Partnership and the City of Flagstaff – Author/Fred Lomayesva, General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel – Tabled to September 6, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.

3. 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 – Tabled

4. Letter dated June 17, 2022 From Keeshya Talayumptewa, First Mesa Elementary School Governing Board; RE: Additional Work Assigned to First Mesa Elementary School Staff by HBE – Dale Sinquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages – Tabled to September 21, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. at First Mesa Elementary School

NEW BUSINESS

1. Action Item #079-2022 – Accept Award No. 1 NU58DP007142-01-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of $600,000 to provide a Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program for the Project Period beginning June 30, 2022 through June 29, 2027 – Author/Dana Russell, Manager, Manager, Hopi Cancer Support Services

2. Action Item #081-2022 – Hart Ranch Wells – Author/Dale Sinquah, Chairman, Water/Energy Committee

3. Presentation on Information Technology Policy and use of equipment – Robert Collate-ta, Jr., Network Manager, Office of Information Technology – Work Session

4. Action Item #082-2022 – To approve and authorize further investigation into a Proposal submitted by Basalt World Corporation and to set aside tribal funds if the Tribe deems the project feasible – Author/Raymond Namoki, Member, Investment Oversight Committee

5. Action Item #083-2022 – To approve Kenenvoyouma Law PLLC Special Prosecutor Agreement – Author/Raymond Namoki, Vice Chairperson, Law & Order Committee

6. Discussion and possible action – Letter dated July 22, 2022 from Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma and Vice Chairman Craig Andrews; RE: Concern regarding First Mesa Consolidated Villages’ Representative Ivan Sidney, Sr. and Letter dated July 26, 2022 from Ivan Sidney, Village Administrator, RE: Reservation from Hopi Tribal Council (Add-on by Leroy Sumatzkuku, Tribal Council Representative, Upper Village of Moenkopi)


8. Appointment of Philton Talahytewa, Sr. and Mr. Jerry Lane to the Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation’s Board of Directors – William Charley, Tribal Council Representative – Upper Village of Moenkopi – October, 2022

9. Letter dated August 18, 2022 from Linda Honahni, Chairperson, Hopi Assisted Living Facility Board of Directors; RE Request to be placed on the agenda to allow Mr. Ross Dietrich from Price Kong CPAs to give a verbal report on the Forensic Audit done on the Hopi Assisted Living Facility – William Charley, Tribal Council Representative, Upper Village of Moenkopi - **Time Certain – September 7, 2022 – 1:00 p.m.


12. Letter dated August 18, 2022 from Joe Seidenberg, Executive Director Red Feather; RE: To present the breadth of Red Feather’s work to the Hopi Tribal Council – Rosa Honani, Tribal Council Representative, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Simpson

13. Memorandum from Eugene Talas, Chairperson, Budget Oversight Team; RE: Request for Time Certain date for September 2022 Tribal Council Agenda to present the FY 2023 General Fund recommended budgets for Tribal Council’s review – David Talayumptewa, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Kykotsmovi - **Time Certain – September 22, 2022 – 9:00 a.m."

Executive Order Number #003-2022
Declaration of a State of Emergency Due to Flooding Across the Hopi Reservation

"WHEREAS, recent monsoonal events have brought several days of heavy rainfall across the Hopi Reservation resulting in severe flash flooding; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the flash flooding has caused significant impacts to bridges, roadways, homes, utilities, structures, buildings, equipment in multiple localities, and has caused mud and rock slides, which pose imminent and substantial threat risks to public health and safety, potential impacts to critical facilities, hindrance to necessary access to critical services, and interruption to communication networks and travel; and

WHEREAS, several villages including Sichomovi, Tewa, Walpi, Bacavi, Upper Village of Moenkopi and Village of Moencopi Lower have issued emergency flooding declarations to call attention to damage caused by the heavy rainfall in their specific localities; and

WHEREAS, flash flood warnings are being issued by the National Weather Services for much of Northern Arizona, including the Hopi Reservation, and which will likely continue throughout the remainder of the 2022 monsoon season; and

WHEREAS, the Hopi Tribal Council, through the Executive Officers of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, is responsible for providing emergency response and support to the villages to ensure the safety and welfare of the general public on the Hopi Reservation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Hopi Tribe, hereby declares the Hopi Reservation in a State of Emergency Due to Flooding across the Hopi Reservation.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Chairman of the Hopi Tribe directs all pertinent tribal departments and programs such as the Department of Public Safety & Emergency Services, Hopi Emergency Medical Services, Hopi Law Enforcement Services, Department of Natural Resources, Hopi Department of Transportation and others to assist in responding to the identified needs; including activating the Hopi Emergency Response Team as necessary, conducting condition assessments, executing plans of action, mobilizing human resources, seeking assistance from federal, state, and other tribal governments, local and private agencies to address emergency and disaster related impacts and costs.

EXECUTED THIS 17th DAY OF AUGUST 2022.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

ATTENTION ALL RANCHERS grazing livestock on the Hopi Reservation. The Bull turn-in date for September 1, 2022 will be extended due to weather and road conditions. Bulls will be returned back to pasture by September 18, 2022. For more information call (928)734-3702 or 3704.
Hopi Tribe Vice-Chairman, Craig Andrews, served as the Special Guest Reader for Hopi Day School’s August 2022 Book Club and asked to read a Hopi story. Andrew’s rendering of the Hopi story he chose to read was captivating. His reading of “The Mouse Couple” story coupled with his translation of the story in Hopi brought forth the largest collection of comments we have ever received from listeners to date.

Due to technical difficulties, time did not allow us to discuss the story as is the usual format of the book club. Regardless of the technical difficulties; the story still captured the attention of those tuned into KUYI radio and on ZOOM.

Vice Chairman Andrews highlighted the importance of the story’s reverence for a daughter as significant and the value a Hopi daughter has to the family. He also recalled a personal memory from his early childhood of hearing stories being told by his uncles and falling asleep before the end and waking up the next day to jump out of bed to ask and learn how the story ended. This is the excitement we want to generate when reading books to children. I am pleased to learn of new listeners that were tuned in and that more people are becoming acquainted with the Hopi Day School monthly Book Club.

One listener stated, “I got so into the story in Hopi that I felt I was abruptly interrupted when the ZOOM session suddenly ended.” Another listener commented, “It was like I was in a trance listening to the story. I could visualize the story being told. There is something about hearing a story in Hopi that just commands your attention!” Still another listener commented, “I found I had stopped what I was doing and waited to listen to the entire story through interruptions and all. I was determined to hear the entire story!”

Hopi Day School would like to generously thank Vice-Chairman Craig Andrews for being a guest for our Book Club and for helping to promote literacy on Hopi. Andrews is from Mishongnovi Village and is of the Bear Clan. He is currently serving his first term as the Hopi Vice-Chairman.

Submitted by: Deborah Deborah Baker, BSW/MS, Parent Liaison - Hopi Day School

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – August 17, 2022

WIC clients will receive more for fruits and vegetables at least through September!

$24/month for children
$43-$47/month for moms

GET MORE PRODUCE!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY OR VISIT ITCAWIC.ITCASTARS.NET/APPLY

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
COVID Prevention Measures Continue as Back-to-School Cases Expected to Increase
“Lessons Learned” Campaign to Stress Vaccination and Continued Prevention Measures

PRESS RELEASE
Submitted by: Armando Saldivar
Communication Specialist - Hopi Tribe/ CDC Foundation

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – August 17, 2022
The Hopi Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) is reminding the Hopi Community that the level for COVID-19 transmission remains at a high level, and that requires continued measures to protect the community. The “Lessons Learned” campaign comes as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) rolls back some of the isolation measures for those considered exposed to the virus.

“It has been decided by public health officials in cooperation with Tribal authorities to maintain the current prevention strategies and orders that we currently have in place. The predominant COVID variant, BA.5, has proven to be very contagious and we cannot afford to let our guard down,” said Royce Jenkins, DHHS Director/Public Health Authority.

Health and tribal officials are concerned that with children and teens heading back to the classroom, the virus will have a greater opportunity to spread, and students are likely to bring the virus back home putting adults at risk as well. In light of this prediction, public health authorities are urging parents to make sure their children are fully vaccinated and that they receive the recommended COVID-19 boosters in order to reduce the possibility that the virus will take hold in the community. Tribal Leaders and Health Officials highly encourage vaccinations for our school-aged youth, and strongly recommend boosters to protect our children and Hopi people.

People ages 6 months through 64 years, may consider getting the 2nd primary dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) eight weeks after the first dose. A longer time between the 1st and 2nd primary doses may increase how much protection the vaccines offer, and further minimize the rare risk of heart problems, including myocarditis and pericarditis. Everyone ages five years and older should get one booster after completing their COVID-19 vaccine primary series, if they are eligible.

Children ages 11 and under are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine (given 3-8 weeks apart). However, in order to be considered up to date with their vaccination, these children should receive one booster of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least 5 months after the final dose in the primary series.

Children ages six to 11 years old are considered fully vaccinated and up to date two weeks after they receive two doses of the Moderna vaccine (given 4-8 weeks apart).

Information on current vaccination recommendations can be found at: Stay Up to Date with Your COVID-19 Vaccines | CDC.

SAMHSA’s New 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Formerly 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Press Release
Submitted by: Charmayne Hardy, BSW - NC Program Coordinator Hopi Behavioral Health Services

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. – September 1, 2022
SAMHSA’s new 988 Suicide and crisis Lifeline is now operational.

According to SAMHSA’s official website, “Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to be operated through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. SAMHSA sees 988 as a first step towards a transformed crisis care system in America.”

If you or someone you know is struggling or experiencing a crisis, simply call or text 988 or chat online at www.988lifeline.org.

If you have any questions or needing more information please call Hopi Behavioral Health Services @ 928-737-6300 or visit www.988lifeline.org.

The Hopi Tribe
Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act Program
(AGES: 14-24 YEARS OLD)

THIS COULD BE YOU!!

RECENT 2022 GRADUATES!!

Youth Recruitment!!

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT?
Here’s your chance to apply & receive hands-on experience and training!
Learn the basics of Employable Skills, Introduction to your career goals and much more!!

➢ For more information please contact Hopi Tribe WIOA Program
➢ Location: Hopi Tribe Administration Building 2nd floor
➢ CDC guidelines in place! Mask is required! Please sign in & out at Security Desk

Georgianna Sieweumptewa, @734-3536 / (928) 205-8739
GSieweumptewa@hopi.nsn.us
Melvina Johnson, @ 734-3534 / (928) 205-3623

The Hopi Tribe WIOA Program is an equal opportunity employer Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individual with disabilities TTY/TDD: 711.
While the monsoon rain Arizona has seen of late is welcome in so many ways, the standing water that follows – often in places you don’t think about around the yard – can become a breeding ground for mosquitoes and the diseases they carry.

The most-common mosquito-borne disease is West Nile virus. Most of those infected will experience no symptoms or mild illness in the form of fever, headache, stiff neck, and body aches. In some people, particularly those who are older or immunocompromised or who have comorbidities, West Nile can cause brain inflammation known as encephalitis as well as meningitis, an inflammation of the brain and spinal cord, resulting in confusion, seizures, and even death.

What can you do? Fight the bite!
Protect Your Home: As this graphic shows, you should look for and address standing water that can accumulate in buckets, cans, toys, untended rain gutters, refuse containers, and debris piles. If you open windows, make sure your screens are in good shape so they’ll keep mosquitoes out.

Protect Yourself and Your Family: Use an insect repellent that’s approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. Long-sleeve shirts and long pants will help keep mosquitoes at bay.

Arizona had 1,693 West Nile cases in 2021, with only Graham, Greenlee, and La Paz counties not reporting cases. West Nile was most common in the central deserts, with 1,463 cases in Maricopa County, 115 in Pinal County, and 99 in Pima County.

So far, 2022 has seen a lower number of human cases of West Nile virus than usual, but Maricopa and Pinal counties have reported viral activity in their mosquitoes. In addition Maricopa and Yuma counties have detected St. Louis encephalitis virus in their mosquitoes. This is a virus related to West Nile, resulting in a very similar illness but less commonly identified in people.

The season for mosquito-borne illness runs through October, so be sure to visit azhealth.gov/mosquito to learn more about how to protect yourself, your family, and your home.
Nicole Aunapu Mann will be making history as the first Native woman to fly into space this fall. Mann, enrolled in Wailacki of the Round Valley Indian Tribes in northern California, will be aboard the SpaceX Crew-5 mission to go to the International Space Station no earlier than Sept. 29.

“It’s very exciting,” she told ICT referring to being the first Native woman in space. “I think it’s important that we communicate this to our community, so that other Native kids, if they thought maybe that this was not a possibility or to realize that some of those barriers that used to be there are really starting to get broken down.”

This is NASA’s fifth crew rotation flight as part of the agency’s Commercial Crew Program. As mission commander on the SpaceX spacecraft called Dragon, Mann is leading all phases of the flight from launch at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Florida to re-entering the Earth’s atmosphere. She will also serve as the Expedition 68 flight engineer on the space station.

Three other astronauts will also be on the Crew-5 mission: NASA astronaut Josh Cassada, JAXA astronaut Koichi Wakata, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Anna Kikina.

The crew will live on board for six months to complete their mission of conducting approximately 250 scientific experiments in the space station that is “a floating laboratory,” Mann said, who is a Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Besides the other crew members, Mann will also be accompanied by the personal items in her personal preference kit. The Dragon spacecraft allows 3.3 pounds for personal items.

“I have some special gifts for my family, which I can’t say because they’re a surprise. Definitely taking my wedding rings, and I have this dream catcher that my mother gave me when I was very young,” she said. “It’s kind of always stayed with me throughout my time.”

This is the 45-year-old’s first spaceflight and she looks forward to the science on board that will benefit the human race.

“One of the ones that I’m looking most forward to is called the biofabrication facility. And it is literally 3D printing human cells, which to me sounds so futuristic, right?” she enthusiastically said.

The force of gravity makes printing and growing cells on Earth difficult. That is a different story in space with “a much more intact structure of the cell,” she said.

The end goal: printing human organs.

“We’re not there yet. However, we have successfully printed some heart cells as well as part of the meniscus of a knee. And so this facility has flown, and then come and printed cells and then come back to Earth,” she said.

“They made changes, they learned it flew again, came back to Earth, they made changes, and they’re about to fly it again. So that’ll be our chance to participate.”

Of course, she hopes to do a spacewalk or two since she trained a lot for that. That was probably the most challenging but enjoyable part of her astronaut training experience.

“So they put you in a spacesuit, just like you would be in space, and they blow up like a balloon,” Mann said.

The pressure in the suit is filled to approximately 4.3 pounds per square inch, or psi. For comparison, the Earth’s air pressure psi is at 14.7, according to NASA. The high pressure in suits is needed to supply adequate oxygen and air pressure to let human bodies function properly.

“And that’s what it’s like when you go out the door in vacuum, then they put you in this huge pool to simulate microgravity, and use a team of divers and weights and foam.”

A mockup of the space station, or most components of it, lies inside this huge pool where the astronauts crawl around in “this kind of like scuba diving, kinda like a jungle gym” making modifications on the space station.

“But each time you move, you’re working against the pressure of that suit, of that 4.3 psi. So it’s like a marathon. The training run is six hours long, you’re physically exhausted, you’re mentally exhausted,” Mann said. “You’re done at the end of one of these runs, but everybody says it is the most realistic training for doing a spacewalk in space. And being under the water and climbing along the space station and doing these tasks. It is incredible. It is some of the coolest training I think that we do. And hopefully I’ll have an opportunity to do that in space for real.”

KYKOTSMOVI, AZ – July 20, 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 July for those 6 months 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: Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM – 9:00 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.

WHEN USING AN AT-HOME TEST IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU REPORT YOUR RESULTS TO THE COVID-19 HOTLINE AT HOPI HEALTH CARE CENTER OR TUBA CITY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE CORPORATION SO THAT ACCURATE DATA IS PROVIDED TO THE COMMUNITY.

VACCINE UPDATE:

On June 17, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized emergency use of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine and the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19 to include use in children down to 6 months of age. For more detailed information please visit www.cdc.gov

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

Testing, and now vaccinations, at TCHRCC are being held at the outdoor tent on 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. TCHRCC 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 two orders of test kits, can now place their first, second, and third order. They must complete the ordering process above (three (3) times to place both a first, second, and third order (for a total of 16 test kits; 4 kits for first order, 4 kits for second order, 8 kits for third order).

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.

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 implementing 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, please advise them to visit their primary care provider 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 H.E.O.C. Updates

### AS OF AUGUST 23, 2022
(Arizona and County Data Updates on Wednesdays)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Population Estimate</th>
<th>Number Vaccinated</th>
<th>Percent of Population Vaccinated</th>
<th>Vaccine Ranking (Highest = 1)</th>
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### # OF NEW CASES PER DAY

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<th>SUN 8/21</th>
<th>MON 8/22</th>
<th>TUES 8/23</th>
<th>WED 8/24</th>
<th>THURS 8/25</th>
<th>FRI 8/26</th>
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<td>TOTAL CASES</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Hopi Telecommunications, Inc. (HTI) in Keams Canyon, Arizona is currently seeking energetic and highly motivated individuals to join the HTI team.

CURRENT OPENINGS

• Key System/Central Office Tech (Full-time)
  CLOSING DATE: September 2, 2022

Requirements: Experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job. Possess a valid Arizona Driver License and pass a background check.

*Must complete and submit an HTI Employment Application and resume. Application can be obtained at the Keams Canyon Office. Or through the HTI Website.

To view job description please visit the HTI website at: www.hopitelecom.com

For more information, please call the Keams Canyon Office at (928) 738-4674 or Flagstaff Office (928) 522-8428 or email info@hopitelecom.com

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

Editorial Board of the Hopi Tutuveni
Wilma Dengavi, Gary LaRance, George Mase

Hopi Tutuveni Staff
Managing Editor - Romalita Laban
RLaban@hopi.nsn.us

Assistant Editor - Carl Onsae
Consae@hopi.nsn.us

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

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

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

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

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

Hopi Tutuveni

The Hopi Utilities Corporation IS HIRING!
Senior Water Operator
Water Operator

To learn more, request an application, or apply: careers.hrpatrons@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/hrpatrons

Hopi Tutuveni wants to know how we are doing. Call or email us to tell us if we are doing a good job. We need your feedback 928-734-3283

BIRTHDAY/CONGRATS!

HAPPY_________DAY...

We offer space for your congratulation! Call or email TODAY to learn more Call: 928-734-3283

Got a DUI ??? ...call Porturica!!

Center for Indian Law
Serving the Legal Needs of Hopi People for 25 Years!
D. Jeffrey Porturica
PH: (928) 289 0974 porturica@gmail.com

HAPPY_________DAY...

We offer space for your congratulation! Call or email TODAY to learn more Call: 928-734-3283

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.
Submitted by: Bonnie Talakte

Phoenix, Ariz. – August 30, 2022 William “Bill” Havens, 76, of Phoenix, Arizona, passed away peacefully on August 12, 2022, after a long courageous battle against kidney cancer. At the time of his passing, he was surrounded by his family and loved ones. He was born on February 10, 1946, in San Diego, California. Bill is survived by his wife of 32 years Bonnie Talakte, his daughter Robyn Talakte and granddaughter Tamantha “Tam” Piper. He is also survived by his brother Robert Havens, sisters Carol and Beverly Havens. Bill met his wife Bonnie in 1990 while participating in the Annual Louis Tewa-anima Footrace. Bill was also a half-marathon runner as well as a triathlete.

Bill was a Veteran and served in the Navy during the Vietnam War aboard the USS O’Bannon, DD-450. Following his departure from the Navy he earned his bachelor’s degree from Ft. Lewis College in Colorado and later received a Master of Arts Degree in American Indian Studies with an emphasis in Tribal Law from the University of Arizona (UofA). Following graduation from the UofA, he served as Chief of Staff to Hopi Tribal Chairman, Ferrell Secakuku and Senior Advisor and Assistant to Ben Nuvamsa. Serving the Hopi Tribal government and Hopi people was a time of immense joy for Bill. He deeply respected the Hopi culture and came to know many tribal members and made many long-lasting friendships.

The Talakte/Havens family are deeply grateful for the kindness extended to Bill by all who knew and collaborated with him while he lived on and worked for the Hopi Tribe.
Are you into drawing **COMICS?**

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

**HOPILAVIT - CONVERSATION WORDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kwisto - Get</td>
<td>Tunatya - Intention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yup’a - Go ahead</td>
<td>Hiisa - Many</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nima - Go home</td>
<td>Paati - Melt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nakwhana - Grant permission</td>
<td>Tuwat - In turn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turskwa - Ground</td>
<td>Qa'ántipu - Mistake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naasami - Half-dollar</td>
<td>Qaavo - Next day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Híñi - Happen (what)</td>
<td>Aa'awna - Notify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Häälayi - Happy</td>
<td>Ephaqam - Now &amp; then</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyaktayt’i - Hurry</td>
<td>Himu’yva - Obtain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wuuni - Idea (thought)</td>
<td>Paypi - Oh Well!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pashimu - Important</td>
<td>Namora - Option (choice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonkya - Improbable</td>
<td>Angqw - Out of origin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songyawnen - In effect</td>
<td>Tuqayvasta - Pay Attention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutuwna - Instruct</td>
<td>Qe’ti - Quit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TICK-TACK-TOE**
Sometimes we forget why we, as Hopis, hold certain ceremonies throughout the year. We forget the primary purpose of each ceremony we have. So, some of us now go with the flow of each ceremony that is performed each year. We slowly forget about the clouds, the rain, the happiness, and the sovereignty it brings to the Hopi people… Poli’tikiveh or Butterfly dances are in full effect on the Hopi reservation.

I sometimes prowl the night chasing mice, and I overhear the singing in the scared kivas with the loud drumming and men yelling with glee…but the butterfly dance or harvest dance is held when there is going to be a good harvest…and so we can be happy and merry. That is the idea of the butterfly dance. But nowadays, it seems we dance because it’s “fun” and to allow the women to shake their backsides and their “Hopi things” all over the plaza.

Years ago, I was at a butterfly dance in this one village, and I swear, it was like a rodeo, where women would put on a dress and go over to the men who were singing and “rope” them out to dance with them. All the chaos of dancing with women, with the men paying them for dancing with them. It was like the women liked to dance for money, which in another context, kind of sounds dirty. Generally, in the entire butterfly dance “craziness” the songs and dancing were the best.

The songs were about traveling rain, and how they would travel a great distance to get to the Hopi lands and shower just for that event. But I know that no one pays attention to the songs because we are too busy giving money and rolled up washcloths with fake flowers. I remembered one time a while ago. I watched the dance from a distance and standing next to this woman, and she said, “I’m gonna dance for gas money, hold my Piccadilly.” When she came back from dancing, she was mad because all she got was a rolled potholder with a lovely “Indian” print on it.

We forget why we have butterfly dances; we want to celebrate, throw everything in the wind, and shake our Hopi booty. But all in all, we forget that this is when we can observe as a people to thank everyone for all the help throughout the year. So sometimes, it’s a good thing to celebrate and to be reminded about why we have these dances at the end of the various Hopi cycles.

A while back, I remembered that there was no Facebook, YouTube, or social media outlet, so we never saw anything online about specific dances around the mesas. But now I go on Facebook, and all I see is people in traditional attire posing and smiling for the camera, and I don’t know who they are. It’s strange because we can’t take pictures of our most sacred ceremonies, but taking photographs of butterfly dances is OK, and it makes me wonder why that is OK?

Isn’t this time of year still considered a sacred ceremonial cycle? I guess it depends on whom you ask. Of course, I did my fair share of pictures of butterfly dances but never for social media, mainly to keep as a souvenir. I still find on YouTube that Hopi events that are still being shown, and of course, I watch them and share them, but even I must be reminded that pictures and videos we share on social media are displayed to the entire world. Then I wonder why some of us Hopi people then complain about our culture being copied and taken by others as their own.

I believe we are killing our own culture…and we forget about that, which is so ironic. But sometimes, forgetting is a way to move forward, like moving forward from hate, destruction, or despair. Maybe that’s why we “forget” and I see a lot of that on the Hopi reservation. It puzzles me that we can have so much dislike for one another and still do our Hopi religion when our faith calls for everyone to come together and be happy with one another. But we fake our happiness and come together because we “have to” then we dislike each other again the next day. Then we wonder why our children are disrespectful little mush-heads.

I like this saying, and I don’t know where it came from, but someone said, “It takes a village to raise a child.” I always wondered about that. I always thought that each woman takes a turn raising the same kid, but it turns out that by “village” it means that that child watches us all. We are all kin to that child, and we are the most significant influence because the child always looks to those who care for them and feed them for guidance and learning.

So, it turns out society is what everything that child sees… Of course, in the Hopi community, we will hear the same verse “…it starts in the home, and with the parents…” and YES, it is true, teachings start in the home. And when you live in a society with hundreds of relatives, I think the Hopi reservation is just one big home to us all.

So everywhere you go on the Hopi reservation is like one big home; your different relatives are supposed to teach and guide you through life with all our Hopi lifeways.

My advice to you is that we are proud people, but we are also very individualized, and with that, I mean that we don’t like to do things together all the time, just for specific events. If we call ourselves a “community” we need to start FORGETTING the hate, the bigotry, the loathing, and the greed…and every word that defines the opposite of happiness. Be like me…a cat…I like to lounge around and watch the birds and the poli’tikiveh and enjoy eating pizza…sometimes it’s not that hard to do.

Larry’s Corner

Want to send Larry something? Send to: PO BOX 123, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039
Want to send Larry email? Send to: meowatlarry@gmail.com
Dangerous heat predicted to hit 3 times more often in future

Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

What's considered officially "dangerous heat" in coming decades will likely hit much of the world at least three times more often as climate change worsens, according to a new study.

In much of Earth's wealthy mid-latitudes, spiking temperatures and humidity that feel like 103 degrees or higher -- now an occasional summer shock -- statistically should happen 20 to 50 times a year by mid-century, said a study Monday in the journal Communications Earth & Environment.

By 2100, that brutal heat index may linger for most of the summer for places like the U.S. Southeast, the study's author said.

And it's far worse for the sticky tropics. The study said a heat index considered "extremely dangerous" where the feels-like heat index exceeds 124 degrees -- now something that rarely happens -- will likely strike a tropical belt that includes India one to four weeks a year by century's end.

"So that's kind of the scary thing about this," said study author Lucas Zeppetello, a Harvard climate scientist. "That's something where potentially billions of people are going to be exposed to extremely dangerous levels of heat very regularly. So something that's gone from virtually never happening before will go to something that is happening every year."

Zeppetello and colleagues used more than 1,000 computer simulations to look at the probabilities of two different levels of high heat -- heat indexes of 103 degrees and above 124 degrees, which are dangerous and extremely dangerous thresholds according to the U.S. National Weather Service. They calculated for the years 2050 and 2100 and compared that to how often that heat happened each year across the world from 1979 to 1998.

The study found a three- to ten-fold increase in 103-degree heat in the mid-latitudes even in the unlikely best-case scenario of global warming limited to only 3.6 degrees since pre-industrial times -- the less stringent of two international goals.

There's only a 5 percent chance for warming to be that low and that infrequent, the study found. What's more likely, according to the study, is that the 103-degree heat will steam the tropics "during most days of each typical year" by 2100.

Chicago hit that 103 degree heat index level only four times from 1979 to 1998. But the study's most likely scenario shows Chicago hitting that hot-and-sticky threshold 11 times a year by the end of the century.

Heat waves are one of the new four horsemen of apocalyptic climate change, along with sea level rise, water scarcity and changes in the overall ecosystem, said Zeppetello, who did much of the research at University of Washington state during the warming-charged 2021 heat wave that shattered records and killed thousands.

"Sadly, the horrific predictions shown in this study are credible," climate scientist Jennifer Francis of the Woodwell Climate Research Center, who was not part of the study team, said in an email. "The past two summers have provided a window into our steamy future, with lethal heat waves in Europe, China, northwestern North America, India, the south-central U.S., the U.K., central Siberia, and even New England. Already hot places will become uninhabitable as heat indices exceed dangerous thresholds, affecting humans and ecosystems alike. Areas where extreme heat is now rare will also suffer increasingly, as infrastructure and living things are ill-adapted to the crushing heat."

"As the heat index rises, it becomes harder and harder to cool our bodies," Salas, who wasn't part of the research team, said in an email. "Heat stroke is a potentially deadly form of heat illness that occurs when body temperatures rise to dangerous levels."

The study focuses on the heat index and that's smart because it's not just heat but the combination with humidity that hurts health, said Harvard School of Public Health professor Dr. Renee Salas, who is an emergency room physician.

"The obstacles at this point are political and no statistical methods, regardless of how powerful or sophisticated can predict whether we will garner the political will to overcome them," Mann said in an email. "But there is reason for cautious optimism."
FEMA declares new strategy to engage tribes

Terry Tang
Associated Press

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has developed a new strategy to better engage with hundreds of Native American tribes as they face climate change-related disasters, the agency announced Thursday.

FEMA will include the 574 federally recognized tribal nations in discussions about possible future dangers from climate change. It has earmarked $50 million in grants for tribes pursuing ways to ease burdens related to extreme weather. Tribal governments will be offered more training on how to navigate applying for FEMA funds. The new plan calls for tribal liaisons to give a yearly report to FEMA leaders on how prepared tribes are.

“We are seeing communities across the country that are facing increased threats as a result of climate change,” FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell said in a conference call with media. “What we want to do in this strategy is make sure that we can reach out to tribal nations and help them understand what the potential future threats are going to be.”

In recent years, tribal and Indigenous communities have faced upheaval dealing with changing sea levels as well as an increase in floods and wildfires. Tribal citizens have lost homes or live in homes that need to be relocated because of coastal erosion. Some cannot preserve cultural traditions like hunting and fishing because of climate-related drought.

Lynda Zambrano, executive director of the Snohomish, Washington-based National Tribal Emergency Management Council, said tribes historically had to make do with nobody to guide them. For example, over 200 Native villages in Alaska have had to share one FEMA tribal liaison. Or different tribes were told different things. So, nonprofits like the council tried to fill in gaps with their own training, she said.

“The way that I equate it to people is that they built the highway, but they never created the on ramps,” Zambrano said. “If FEMA is just now getting around to building the ramps, well, that’d be a good thing. But there needs to be very clear policy and procedure and direction—and it has to be consistent.”

Tribes have historically been disproportionately impacted by natural disasters because they are in high-risk areas and have little infrastructure, she added. They will only continue to be vulnerable. It was only in 2013 under the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act that federally recognized tribes obtained the ability to directly request emergency and disaster declarations. Before, they had to apply for disaster funding through the states.

The new strategy emphasizes making sure tribes know of every FEMA grant program and how to apply for it. The hope is this will give them an equitable chance at getting funding. The agency hopes to find ways to get around barriers like FEMA cost share, or the portion of disaster or project funding that the federal government will cover. In some cases, tribes simply can’t afford to pay their share.

“In those areas where we can’t, what we want to do is to be able to work with the tribes to help them find other funding sources to help them stitch together the different funding streams that might be out there,” Criswell said.

However, FEMA’s new strategy to engage Native tribes seems specifically aimed at those with federal recognition. That would seem to leave out tribes that only have state recognition or no recognition. In a place like Louisiana that nuance could leave out many Native Americans most affected by climate change.

When Hurricane Ida came ashore in 2021, it devastated a large swath of southeast Louisiana that has been home to Native Americans for centuries. With climate change, hurricanes are expected to get stronger and wetter. But the tribes most affected by Ida say not having federal recognition has stymied their ability to prepare for and recover from storms.

Cherie Matherne is the cultural heritage and resiliency coordinator for the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe. Upon hearing about FEMA’s announcement, she said she wished the changes would also be applied to tribes without federal recognition like hers.

“It’s an oversight if they don’t work with state recognized tribes,” said Matherne, who is living in a trailer next to her gutted home in southeastern Louisiana. “If there are grants for tribal nations and tribal people that would be very helpful information for people to know.”

FEMA will continue to work with state and local governments to ensure state-recognized tribes are getting assistance, agency officials said.

Another change under the new strategy is more FEMA staff meeting tribes on their land, a request the agency got from multiple tribes. This will include anything from in-person technical assistance in small, rural communities to appearing at large national or regional tribal events.

Bill Auberle, co-founder of the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at Northern Arizona University, said this focus on regular interactions on tribal land is an immense development. More intimate discussions such as workshops, roundtables and webinars are “exceedingly important to tribes.”

“It’s one thing to send out a notice and say ‘We would like your response,’” Auberle said. “Some of those tribes are small but have very serious needs. FEMA can certainly appreciate that.”

In addition to making more funds available to tribes, FEMA could also help by providing things like technical support as tribes prepare for and adapt to climate change, Auberle said.

The push to ensure all tribes fully understand how to access FEMA assistance or other related grants will be done with webinars, tribal consultations or regular meetings with FEMA regional staff.

Agency workers will get trained as well, learning a historic and legal overview about tribal sovereignty and cultural sensitivities.

Zambrano, of the National Tribal Emergency Management Council, hope this leads to every tribal nation getting funding for an emergency management program.

“Our tribal nations are a good 30 years behind the curveball in developing their emergency management programs,” she said. “Nobody is better at being able to identify, mitigate, prepare and respond to a disaster in Indian Country than the people that live there.”
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