



The Village Crier

Your Local Community Newspaper

November 22, 2022 Volume 3, No. 22

Tobias Lomayestewa and Latonia Lomayouma Tie the Knot in a Beautiful Outdoor Wedding Ceremony



The wedding entourage of Mr. & Mrs. Tobias Lomayestewa, along with family members, pose for a picture after a beautiful outdoor Wedding Ceremony held at the Tewa Sand Clan Housing on Nov. 12, 2022. Weather was perfect as hundreds of invited guests joined to witness and celebrate the occasion. Immediately after the Ceremony, a delicious catered meal was served with entertainment following. Parents of the Bride are Lewellyn Lomayouma and Yolanda Nutumya of First Mesa. Mother of the Groom is Lynette Shupla from Shungopavy Village.

Early Designs and Conceptual Drawings for Proposed Veteran Housing Units Adjacent to Hopi Health Care Center



See Story on Page 2



HOPI CALENDAR

TömöKyelmuyaw
(November)
the Initiate Moon
is the last moon
of the year

- Nov TömöKyelmuyaw
- Dec Kyaamuyaw
- Jan Tömö'Paamuyaw
- Feb Powamuyaw
- Mar Ösömuayaw
- Apr Kwiayamuyaw
- May Hakitonmuyaw
- June Woko'uyis
- July Tala'Kyelmuyaw
- Aug Tala'Paamuyaw
- Sep Nasanmuyaw
- Oct Angakmuyaw

THIS MONTH IN HOPI HISTORY

- **AD 900:** Early Hopi peopled moved into Grand Canyon, Black Mesa and Little Colorado area
- **AD 1100-1300:** Hopi Ancestors began moving to Hopi Mesas because of dependable springs
- **1598:** Juan de Onate arrived at Hopi in search of gold
- **1776:** Franciscans arrived in Orayvi to help against the Navajo
- **1859:** Mormons arrived at Orayvi
- **1863:** Kit Carson seeks volunteers in Orayvi

First Mesa Consolidated Villages
P.O. Box 260
Polacca, AZ 86042

The Village Crier is published on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

To subscribe or submit news articles for publication, contact: 928-737-2670 or email to: Lnahsonhoya@gmail.com

Early Designs and Conceptual Drawings for Proposed Veteran Housing Units — from Page 1

Ivan L. Sidney, Administrator
First Mesa Consolidated Villages

During the most critical times of COVID, the Flagstaff Office of the *Nation's Finest* assisted Veterans with housing, medical treatments, food, and placements of the homeless in shelters. This revealed the need for our Native American Veterans who lacked these services on their homeland.

It was during this time, Mr. Michel Odonnell, Center Director contacted our office at FMCV requesting for a planning meeting to provide services for our veterans' needs. Our Leaders recognize our veterans as special people, who served our country for our freedom and have earned our allegiance and agreed that the VA should provide assistance.

For the first meeting, Administrator of the First Mesa Consolidated office Ivan Sidney invited Mr. Phillip Quochoyewa, a retired BIA Police Captain and a Marine Corp veteran. It was important to solicit the assistance of an experienced veteran for planning purposes. We were informed by the Flagstaff office that they had contact with the office that provides planning for veteran's care centers that provide for treatments.

Since this project required a land site for a facility, the Soyal Mongwi who also has authority over the Corn/Water Clan lands in First Mesa, was contacted. He did

not hesitate and would consider a land assignment for this project.

An area was available on the east side of the Hopi Health Care Center. We learned that this location next to the HHCC would provide the best immediate health care services. This area already has the infrastructure required for this type of facility. During this first meeting, it was agreed that this project would be pursued, especially with its commitment of providing land.

Participating by virtual connection was Mr. Brad Long, Executive Director, Veterans Housing Development Corporation based in California. His office would be responsible for the design of the facility. It was recommended that we seek an architect familiar with Native American design and having the facility designed for the inclusion of native religious and cultural healing. Our consultant based in Albuquerque, Mr. Michael Peacock, a member of the Laguna Tribe recommended the Suina Design Architecture owned by a Native American Women also from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

A second virtual meeting was held which then included Mr. Geno Talas, Director of the Hopi Veterans Office. It was very important and critical that he be included to represent the needs of our veterans.

The first conceptual design was prepared

and on November 15, 2022, a virtual meeting was held to present the drawings. This first drawing includes housing for treatment patients and with several units for separate housing units for recovery purposes. In the design is a center area that could be designed for our own cultural and religious purposes. This facility must be representative of our Veterans and especially including the sacrifice of Lori Piestewa representing the bravery of our females.

Talas and Quochoyewa were advised that they will take the lead of working with their fellow comrades for input. Our office will be responsible for the continued focus on land approvals, lease of land, infrastructure connections, rights-of-ways, and assist lobbying for federal funds for construction.

A follow-up meeting is scheduled for the second week of December. Although this project will require much work, we must have positive attitudes for the challenge.

It will be most helpful for all Hopi People to join with the much-needed support and to appreciate the continued support of our Traditional Leaders caring for all people as their children.

We just celebrated Veterans Day and now look forward to seeing their assistance in responding to our country's calling our everyday freedom.

The First Mesa Consolidated Villages office will be closed on Nov. 24 & 25. For emergencies, please call 928-737-2670 and leave your name, phone number and a brief message of your call. Someone will return your call upon receipt of message.

The FMCV Administration and Leadership encourages everyone to be cautious and practice safety protocols as you gather with your families during Thanksgiving. The Navajo Nation recently reported high transmission of COVID-19 in forty-five communities on the Navajo Nation.



The Polacca Community Building Is Available for Rental Use. Call Brannon Sidney at 928-737-2670 information.

Representatives of Western Indian Ministries Radio Station Meet with FMCV staff to Give Update Report on Radio Project



L-R: Village Crier Editor Louella Furcap, Across Nations General Director Chuck Harper, Across Nations Project Engineer Terry, First Mesa Consolidated Villages Administrator Ivan Sidney, and Across Nation Radio Manager Jenna Martinez

Thursday morning Representatives of the Western Indian Ministries met with the First Mesa Consolidated Village office on Nov. 17 to provide updates on the Radio Project slated for the Hopi community in the near future.

Progress seems to be on target with all documents currently being signed by proper officials.

The proposed radio station name is KOPI. (Incidentally, this name was used by former First Mesa Baptist Church Korean Pastor Taeil Lim, Korean-Hopi, aka Povi Enu' during his ministry.

Updates will be provided as they progress.

FIRST MESA CONSOLIDATED VILLAGES

P.O. Box 260
Polacca, AZ 86042
928-737-2670

TRADITIONAL LEADERS

James Tewayguna
Kikmongwi,
Village Chief

Leo Lacapa, Jr.
Soyal Mongwi

Sam Tenakhongva
Katsin Mongwi

Kikmongwi Spokesmen

Dickson Silas
Albert T. Siquah, Sr.
Albert Silas

FMCV STAFF

Ivan Sidney
Village Administrator

Brannon Sidney
Accountant

Merideth Qotswisiwma
Water Clerk

Alphonso Sakeva, Jr.
Water Operations &
Public Safety Supervisor

Joshua Huma
Water Operator

Craig Grover
Maintenance

Louella N. Furcap
Village Crier Editor
Lnahsonhoya@gmail.com

TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Albert Siquah
Dale Siquah
Wallace Youvella, Jr.

FMCV Water Operations

Telephone Lines are open for Debit-Credit Card Water Payments from 9am to 4pm Monday-Friday 928-737-2670

Money Orders may be mailed to: FMCV PO Box 260 Polacca, AZ 86042

OR, placed in Drop Box located next to the door from 8am to 5pm Monday-Friday

No Cash Payments will be Accepted

Hopi Utility Corporation and Hopi Tribal Council Fail to Follow Rightful Approval Process for Village Land Use. These violations now include Federal Agencies who also Failed to Carry Out their Trust Responsibilities and Must Be Reported to the Office of the Federal Inspector General.

Ivan L. Sidney, Administrator
First Mesa Consolidated Villages

On November 14, 2022, a letter on behalf of our First Mesa Traditional Leaders was written to Mr. James Underwood, Chairman of the Hopi Utilities Corporation Board, requesting a meeting. The letter stated that at the onset of the HAMP project, requests were made for village land use approvals according to the approval process and according to the Hopi Constitution. This is especially, to acknowledge and respect the long-time status of village lands according to our traditional village self-government.

This issue is followed by a 40-year water agreement proposed by the corporation. Several meetings were held with the staff of the corporation and continual requests were made by FMCV to explain how the terms proposed in the agreement were formulated. No response to answer this important question was ever received verbally, nor in writing.

This information on the formulation of the cost of HAMP water for our community is important, to establish a fair and reasonable cost for our customers. We are reminded by our Traditional Leaders, particular our Kikmongwi, that he does not want high costs for his people due to many financial hardships by our elderly.

Only this month, our office finally received a lengthy copy of the "Preliminary Engineering Report for the Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Alternatives prepared for the Hopi Tribe by the Indian Health Service dated August 2014."

In this report is the "Compliance Plan for Arsenic" agreement signed by Belma B. Nuvakuku, Business Manager of FMCV dated March 11, 2011. Our research revealed at the time the proposed cost of the water for each household will be almost \$90.00 per month.

We believe these discussions are unknown to our traditional leaders and village customers. A letter was written to Nuvakuku inviting her to a meeting with our Leaders, back then, with no response. At the time FMCV increased the water rates, Nuvakuku was the CSA at Sichomovi Village Office, and customers were extremely critical of the increase.

Water meters are now installed at all households and other water customer establishments. The water billings will be according to water usage. This cost per gallon is not set due to the unresolved cost per gallon of water purchase from the Hopi Utility Corporation. The use of the meter would allow water use according to the amount of water used and should assist with the conservation of the precious water. FMCV's plan to activate the meters was to share the amount of water used per month by each customer prior to the cost. This will not include our customers on the upper mesa where special rates must be determined. We must continue to support the saying that "Water is Life" and is the reason and purpose of our Hopi Religious Ceremonies.

It must also be reported that on June 4, 2001, the Hopi Tribal Council Approved Resolution H-055-2001 approving the Leasing, Lease Compliance, Service Line Agreement and Rights of Way realty protocols. Included in the resolution is the adoption of the National Environmental Policy Act.

On November 3, 2020, Mr. Micah Loma'omvaya, Realty Officer wrote a letter to the Hopi Tribal Council in part stating the following: "The Hopi ORES is submitting this letter as our responsibility to inform you of the misrepresentation of the ORES in the Tribal Government Internal Review of Action Item

#088-2020 as presented on November 2, 2020 by Mr. Carroll Onsa, Hopi Utilities Corporation and Ms. Amy Mignella, Deputy General Counsel....The Hopi ORES has not provided a review nor support Action Item #088-2020 To approve and authorize land access and use, consistent with previously approved HAMP design, planning and surveys, for construction and operation of the HAMP water system and powerline- Author Carroll Onsa, General Manager, Hopi Utilities Corporation, presented to the Hopi Tribal Council."

The ORES is a BIA P.L. 93-638 contracted program to carry out the requirements of the Federal Leasing of Indian Lands policies in accordance with its trust responsibilities over trust lands. The foremost of any use of Village Land, is to secure rightful approvals prior to the enactment by the Hopi Tribal Council.

No approvals were granted by the FMCV Religious Leaders for use of land, NEPA clearances, rights-of-ways and leases for the establishment of water systems operations structures and fencing. These are serious non-approval violations of our village lands and serious non-compliance of tribal and federal laws by the Hopi Utility Corporation, Hopi Tribal Council, Federal Offices of the Environmental Protection Agency and Indian Health Service.

It is unknown, at the time of this writing, what final document were based on by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for its approval. It is assumed the BIA relied only on the approval of the Hopi Tribal Council. For years, violations of the Hopi Constitution by the Hopi Tribe have been reported to the BIA all resulting in non-responses or the BIA citing the self-determination laws.

It now remains that our Kikmongwi

and Traditional Leaders stand alone to protect its authority over our village lands, all derived from our creator. All protection of our clan lands within our village must or should be the responsibility of our village members. Are we to forego our religious commitment to protect our lands according to the creators' instructions?

It is understandable that our village needs the arsenic free water for health reasons and compliance with Federal EPA laws. Our Traditional and Religious Leaders conceived and supported the HAMP Project at its inception. However, it is the Hopi Utility Corporation and the Hopi Tribal Council, with their responsibility, who failed to follow the rightful approval process. These violations now include the Federal Agencies who failed to carry out their trust responsibilities and must be reported to the Office of the Federal Inspector General.

At the time of this writing, we understand that Sipaulavi and Mishongnovi signed the forty-year agreement and are receiving the HAMP water administered by HUC. This confirms our leader's position that the Tribal Council condones the illegal process for the completion of the HAMP by use of federal grants.

Also included in the November 3 letter from ORES is the statement that the Office of the Chairman and Hopi Utility Corporation would submit rights-of-way documents and the new land use approvals developed by the Office of Hopi General Counsel and the HUC Attorney. To date, none have been submitted.

It remains our village lands are sacred and will never be for sale, exchanged or compromised.

Letter to the Editor - November 10, 2022

To the Editor:

I would like to express my important opinion on Veterans Day. This document will be late for official Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2022.

I am back again Ivan, I will join you on news for the Hopi public. I don't have any news for Polacca water problems.

I guess I am frustrated from illnesses I am going through. I have a couple to a few years to live with suffering from dialysis and spinal stenosis. I am handicapped from the waist down and I cannot walk.

The other frustration I have is our Hopi Administration. We are getting no where with our current Chairman and Vice Chairman. Our biggest problem is the Tribal Council. We need a

complete change in our government. I would like to alert and "wake up" our Hopi people. No one says "anything" or speaks-up about our tribal government.

Because of the negative attitude of our own Hopi People, is the reason I have to express my frustrated opinion.

Nov. 11, 2022 is Veterans Day. The Hopi people are forgetting our own Hopi warriors on Veterans Day. We have no input from our tribal government and the Hopi Veteran's Office does not honor our Veterans.

"Ka-hak pu hita kyaap tsita." Our Veterans are not recognized and no one tells a Veteran "iss kwa kwai!"

Our Veterans suffered and gave their lives for our freedom. We have Veterans that are no longer with us and we

have some Veterans still here with us.

There are very young soldiers that are still in the service. Thank God we are not currently in active world war. We are still having problems over seas and that is where our young warriors are serving.

I have made some veteran songs but the only problem is the songs are powwow style. One is a flag song in Hopi words. This song was given to Ernest Paiestewa, so it belongs to Ernest. The other song in Hopi is about Lori Paiestewa. It expresses her maiden name as White Bear maiden. These songs were never sung in public or recorded. Hopefully someday it will be presented to all the Hopi warriors.

Some Elder Hopis have said "pam

powwow ka ita himu," meaning powwow is not our thing; but during social dances they dress and dance like Navajo, Apache and konina, which is not ours.

The Veteran songs are not religious, but social style singing. These songs were created in the Southwest to honor all Veterans. The songs were given to them. Hopi does not have any ceremony to honor our returning veterans that took part in active duty and return back to Hopi.

My motto is; We, as Hopi people, should never forget our warriors. I am a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and served six years in the Marine Corps.

Ernest Nahnacassia
Hotevilla, AZ

Hopi Jr. Sr. High School Receives New Bruin Travel Bus



#BRUINPRIDE

A huge shout out goes to our awesome Transportation Department!

They work tireless hours every day to ensure our students make it to and from school and our many events safely. They have also been working hard to upgrade our fleet of buses. Supply chain issues have made that a huge challenge over the past three school years but progress is being made. Thank you HJSHS Transportation! You all are awesome!

Check out the new 40 passenger Bruin travel bus that arrived to campus this week.



Demonstration Incident at Hopi Jr Sr High School

Date: November 10, 2022
 To: HJSHS Community Members
 From: Matthew Duran, HJSHS Operations Director & Alban Naha, HJSHS Interim Superintendent

On November 9, 2022 at approximately 7:53 am, Hopi Junior Senior High School (HJSHS) experienced an incident of demonstration near our south parking lot during bus drop-offs. The demonstration involved a member of the HJSHS population. Currently, the individual cannot be on campus without permission.

This demonstration was first reported by our Transportation Department. The Operations Department responded immediately along with contacting Hopi Law Enforcement. The demonstration was short lived and posed no risk to our students and staff. At no time was the individual in close proximity to students. Hopi Law Enforcement Services responded to campus, are making a report of the incident, and working in conjunction with the HJSHS Administration throughout the investigation. The individual involved may face further disciplinary action.

Safety remains a top priority at HJSHS. The school evaluated and updated our safety procedures before the start of the 2022-2023 school year. We felt this is an opportune time to remind all HJSHS

- stakeholders of them.
- The safety procedures include:
- A checkpoint station in which all individuals coming onto campus must pass through.
 - All visitors must check-in at the administrative office. They are then buzzed in to the main building.
 - Exterior doors coming in from the main entry points are locked throughout the school day.
 - Routine checks of the building's perimeter.
 - Soft and hard lockdown procedures as outlined in the Continuity of Operations Plan.

For questions regarding the incident, please contact HJSHS Interim-Superintendent, Mr. Alban Naha, at (928) 738-1411. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we continually work to keep HJSHS a safe and secure environment for all students and staff.

SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT To provide facilities and programs that maximizes opportunities for growth in the development of life skills as well as academic and career goals within our cultural context.

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT Hopi Jr./Sr. High School will provide a safe, positive, and healthy, learning environment where students will achieve academic excellence as determined by State and National Standards. The school recognizes and will utilize the diversity of Native American culture and traditions to assist students in becoming contributing members of society.

2022–2023 H.E.A.L. JV Basketball Schedule

2022 H.E.A.L. JV BASKETBALL			
REGULAR SEASON GAMES WILL BEGIN @ 4:00 p.m. MST			
THURS. NOV. 3.	THURS. NOV. 10	THURS. NOV. 17	TUES. NOV. 22
PUSD @ SMIS	SMIS @ JPS	JPS @ HDS	SMDS @ JPS
HDS @ KCES	SMDS @ PUSD	SMIS @ SMDS	HBGS @ HDS
MDS @ SMDS	HBGS @ KCES	PUSD @ FMES	FMES @ SMIS
FMES @ HBGS	MDS @ FMES	KCES @ MDS	KCES @ PUSD
JPS BYE	HDS BYE	HBGS BYE	MDS BYE
THURS. DEC. 1	THURS. DEC. 8	Mon. Dec 12th	THURS. JAN 5.
JPS @ HBGS	FMES @ JPS	JPS @ MDS	KCES @ JPS
SMDS @ FMES	MDS @ HBGS	KCES @ FMES	PUSD @ MDS
HDS @ MDS	SMDS @ KCES	HBGS @ PUSD	SMIS @ HBGS
SMIS @ KCES	PUSD @ HDS	HDS @ SMIS	HDS @ SMDS
PUSD BYE	SMIS BYE	SMDS BYE	FMES BYE
THURS. JAN. 12	SAT. JAN. 21		
JPS @ PUSD	H.E.A.L. FINALS		
MDS @ SMIS	TBA		ORDER OF EVENTS
FMES @ HDS			JV GIRLS
HBGS @ SMDS			JV BOYS
KCES BYE			



H.E.A.L. Membered-Schools

HDS: Hopi Day School

HBGS: Hotevilla Bacavi Community School

FMES: First Mesa Elementary School

KCES: Keams Canyon Elementary School

SMIS: Second Mesa Day School

MDS: Moencopi Day School

PUSD- Pinion Unified School

JPS- Jeddito Public School

SMIS-ST. Michaels Indian School

FALL 2022 HOPI YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Registration forms can be picked up in the HS principles office



LESSONS IN CULTURAL WELLBEING...

IN THIS ONE WEEK PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS WILL ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE OF COLONIZATION, DECOLONIZATION AND HOW IT RELATES TO HOPI HISTORICAL EVENTS, LAND BASE, ETC. A COMPARISON APPROACH BETWEEN VALUES AND LIFESTYLES WILL BE DISCUSSED REGARDING HOPI TODAY AND HOPI PRE COLONIZATION.

PROGRAM DATES: NOV 28 - DEC 2, 2022

MON - FRI 3:30PM - 4:30PM

PROGRAM INCENTIVES! MICRO FLEECE JACKETS & BEANIES!

AVAILABLE TO HOPI/TEWA STUDENTS GRADES 9TH-12TH LAST DAY TO REGISTER NOV. 23D

NAU Offers Free Tuition for Arizona's 22 Tribes Beginning Fall 2023

Northern Arizona University will cover tuition for all members of Arizona's 22 federally recognized tribes starting in fall 2023.

The Access2Excellence initiative, known as or A2E, was announced earlier this year and provides full tuition coverage for all new first-time undergraduate students with a family income of \$65,000 a year or less beginning in the fall of 2023.

It will now be expanded to all members of Arizona's tribes regardless of income level or state residency. Visit nau.edu/a2e for more info on the program.

November is National Native American Heritage Month

National Native American Heritage month is celebrated annually in November to recognize Native American and Indigenous peoples, the original inhabitants of what is now the United States. It has been honored since 1990, when President George H.W. Bush signed a joint resolution acknowledging the month. The 1990 resolution said the goal of the designation is to have a month dedicated to provide "enhanced self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness to young Native American Indians.

On Oct. 8, 2021, U.S. President Joe Biden be-

came the first U.S. President to formally recognize the holiday, by signing a presidential proclamation declaring Oct. 11, 2021 to be a national holiday, honoring Native peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures. It is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday in October, and is an official city and state holiday in various localities. It began as a counter-celebration held on the same day as the U.S. federal holiday of Columbus Day, which honors Italian explorer Christopher Columbus.

USS Hopi AT-71 Reclassified as USS Hopi ATF-71



Hopi AT-71 was launched Sept. 7, 1942 by the Charleston Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co.

Naval History and Heritage Command
www.history.navy.mil/danfs/h7/hopi

After shakedown out of Key West, *Hopi* sailed to New York on June 10, 1943 with a convoy for North Africa. After arriving in Oran on June 21, she performed towing service for several days before steaming out to Bizerte to join Vice Admiral Hewitt's Western Naval Task Force for the Assault on Sicily (July 10 - Aug. 17, 1943). Departing Bizerte on July 8 with pontoons in tow, *Hopi* landed two days later and immediately set to work clearing beaches of damaged landing craft, fighting fires on vessels in the transport areas, and performed a multitude of other jobs vital to success in amphibious operations.

Hopi returned to Bizerte on Aug. 10 to prepare for the Salerno Operation (Sept. 9 - Oct. 13, 1943). She sailed early in Sept. and again performed invaluable salvage work. On Sept. 11, at 0940 hours, cruiser *Savannah*, while lying in the support area awaiting calls for gunfire support, received a direct hit on the No. 3 turret which left her dead in the water. *Hopi* and salvage tug *Moreno* immediately came alongside to help. The untiring and skillful work by the two tugs enabled *Savannah* to retire to Malta that evening.

On Sept. 16, HMS *Warspite* was put out of action by two direct hits and two near misses from guided bombs. Again, *Hopi* and *Moreno* towed and delivered her to Malta without further incident.

Hopi next sailed to the Assault on Anzio (Jan. 22, 1944) and remained there for the next month. On Feb. 15, the liberty ship *Elihu Yale* was severely damaged by a direct bomb hit which left her burning fiercely. The ship was abandoned with one wounded man trapped below, and some men were still clinging to lifelines. After picking up survivors, *Hopi* maneuvered alongside and transferred firefighting equipment to the stricken vessel. Two days later the last fire was extinguished. *Hopi* handled the entire operation with no outside assistance and fought the fire with only 40 men.

This is just one of the many splendid examples of courage, devotion, and the 'can-do' spirit of the Navy's small but gallant ships in the face of danger, including *Hopi*.

On May 15, 1944, *Hopi* was reclassified AFT-71 and assigned duty towing various craft around the Mediterranean until August when she again joined Vice Admiral Hewitt's Western Naval Task Force for Operations Dragoon, the invasion of southern France. As flagship of the Salvage and Fire-fighting Group, *Hopi* again rendered invaluable service. After this operation ended, she resumed her towing duties, principally shuttling pontoons from Bizerte to Oran.

Hopi arrived in Antwerp, Belgium, on June 25, 1945, and immediately began work by towing the Army Power Plant *Seapower*, delivering it to Bermuda. On Aug. 25, she set sail to Norfolk, arriving Aug. 28 and remained there until Oct. 21. After that, she steamed to Boston and on Dec. 1, she got underway to assist the coastal collier *Tristan*, who had lost her rudder in a storm. *Hopi* returned to Boston Dec. 3 with *Tristan* in tow.

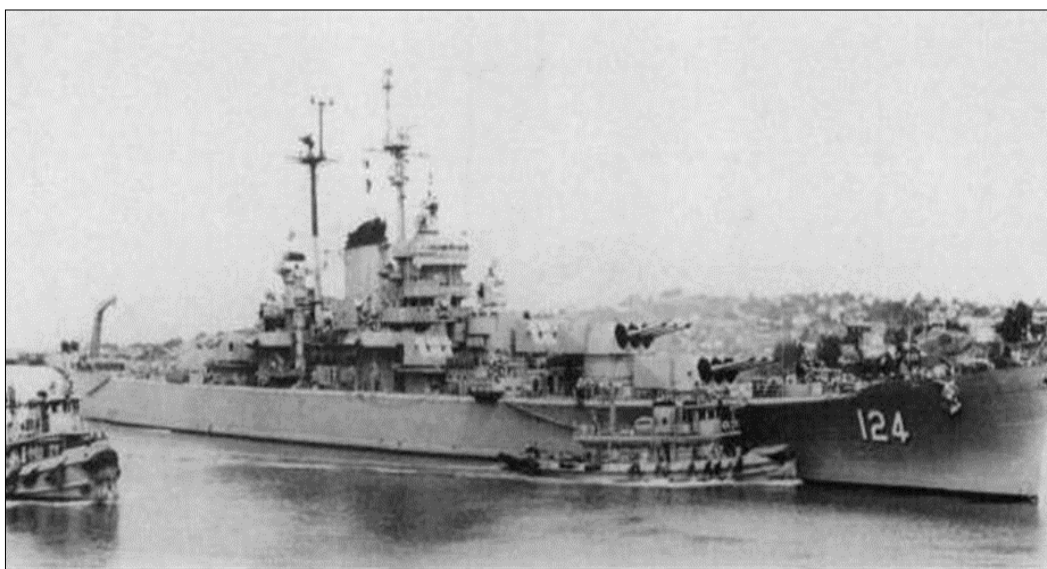
For the next 3 years she operated along the East Coast with frequent towing duties to Oran, Algiers, Newfoundland, and the Caribbean. During the Berlin Airlift in 1948-1949, as Navy tankers and other ships brought 12 million gallons of aviation gasoline, goods, and supplies to Bremerhaven, *Hopi*, with the 2d Task Fleet held maneuvers in the North Atlantic, showing American power at sea, and the visible evidence of United States' strength to maintain sovereignty for free people everywhere.

In the 1950's *Hopi* resumed her operations along the East Coast, again performing towing and salvage service in Newfoundland and the Caribbean. She thus contributed to the efficient operations of the fleet in its peace-keeping operations.

Hopi decommissioned on Dec. 9, 1955 at New London and joined the Atlantic Reserve Fleet. She was then turned over to the Maritime Administration on March 27, 1962 and moved to the National Defense Reserve Fleet, James River, VA; following permanent transfer to the Maritime Administration July 1, 1963 to 1967.

Hopi received four battle stars for World War II service.

Awatobi (YTB-264) 1945-1960



Awatobi (YTB-264) assists Rochester (CA-124) in departing the Mare Island Naval Shipyard

Naval History and Heritage Command
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Awatobi_\(YTB-264\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Awatobi_(YTB-264))

Awatobi (YT-264) was laid down on 27 March 1944 at Tacoma, Wash., by the J. M. Martinac Shipbuilding Corp.; reclassified a big harbor tug and redesignated YTB-264 on 15 May 1944; launched on 30 September 1944; and placed in service on 1 February 1945.

Awatobi served out her entire naval career as a harbor tug in the Twelfth Naval District. She was deactivated in 1960, and her name was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register in December 1960.

A Hopi Native American word meaning "high place of the bow." The term may refer to the Bow people (now extinct) and was applied to a former Hopi pueblo located on a mesa in northeastern Arizona.

Native Americans Can Be Considered the Most Patriotic Group in America with the Highest Percentage of any Population to Serve in Wars in the U.S.

Throughout the years Native Americans, including many Hopis, have served in defense of their home country, America.

In the Naval History & Heritage historical archives you will find names of these two tug ships that were built and proudly bore the names of *USS Hopi AT-71* later reclassified as *USS Hopi ATF-71* and *Awatobi YT-264*.

Hopi (AT-71) was launched Sept. 7, 1942 by the Charleston Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., Charleston, SC., sponsored by Miss F. E. L. Blackwell; and commissioned March 31, 1943, with LT. O.W. Huff in command.



**Give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good; his love
endures forever.**

—1 Chronicles 16:34

The Polacca
Community
Building Is
Available for
Rental Use.
Call Brannon
Sidney at
928-737-2670
for more
information

Visit us online at:
firstmesaconsolidatedvillages.com

928-737-2670

P.O. Box 418, Polacca, AZ 86042

Hopi Tribal Council Report

By: AT Siquah, First Mesa Council Representative

EDUCATION

On October 25, 2022 the Hopi Board of Education (HBE) reported to the Hopi Tribal Council regarding the HBE and First Mesa Elementary School (FMES) meeting held on October 18, 2022. The HBE reported that they had a constructive meeting and are working toward the unification date of July 1, 2023. In response to the FMES Board's request to fill vacancies on the HBE, the Transition Team is opening a 30-day nomination period seeking candidates to fill the vacancies on the HBE from November 1, to November 30 2022. HBE Chairman Leroy Shingoitewa informed the Council that the Hopi Board of Education is on track with the Council which details steps towards the unification process. HBE also reported that Hopi Tribe's Office of General Counsel is serving as the attorney on this project as it is being conducted under the Tribal Education Grant. HBE plans to attain services of an attorney upon unification on July 1, 2023. Should you wish to learn more about the Hopi School System, please visit the Hopi School System website, www.hopischoolsystem.org.

SEEKING CANDIDATES for HOPI BOARD OF EDUCATION To Represent:

FIRST MESA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HOTIVELLA BACAVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL

KEAMS CANYON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

AT-LARGE MEMBER (Representing entire Hopi Reservation)

Due date November 30, 2022 5:00 p.m.

Contact Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa at NSakiestewa@hopi.nsn.us, 737-3501

HEALTH

The Health and Education Committee reviewed and supported an Action Item to be addressed by the Tribal Council, and to approve submission of renewal application for continued nutritional services to elders for FY 2023-

2026; and Family Caregiver Services. The Title VI Funding provides nutritious meals for Elders 55 years and older; and provides support services to non-paid caregivers including grandparents raising grandchildren.

This program is funded on a three year cycle. This renewal application is for period beginning April 1, 2023 ending on March 31 2026.

HOPI HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Hopi Housing Authority, Board of Commissioners have diligently been working on revising/updating the Hopi Tribal Ordinance No 15, establishing the Hopi Housing Authority, which was adopted by the Hopi Tribal Council on September 22, 1966. The Ordinance has been amended multiple times. The purpose of this revision is to assure that the Ordinance is "up dated" to assure that it is current with present polices and to provide for a more efficient operation of the program.

A request for "Time Certain" to address this action Item has been made to the Tribal Council, for Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.



Hopi Tribal Council Fourth Quarter Session November 2022 Agenda, Amendment #1

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. 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**
2. Discussion and possible action: Letter dated by September 19, 2022 re: Survey conducted by Hopi Elections Office from Dale Siquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages. **Tabled**

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Action Item #087-2022: To approve Sole Source Consulting Agreement with Oxbow Data Management Systems, LLC. Author Dana Russell, Manager, Hopi Cancer Support Services
2. Action Item #089-2022: To approve Arnold & Porter Contracts (1882 Reservation Land Matters) and (Miscellaneous). Author Fred Lomayesva, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel
3. Action Item #090-2022: Intergovernmental Agreement between the State of Arizona and the Hopi Tribe. Author Donovan Gomez, Transit Administrator, Hopi Senom Transit
4. Action Item #091-2022: Mutual Aid and Jurisdiction Agreement with the City of Winslow. Author Mervin Yoyetewa, Chairman, Law & Order Committee
5. Action Item #092-2022: Lease Option Agreement for the I-40 Solar Project. Author Edison Tu'tsi, Manager, Office of Hopi Lands
6. Action Item #093-2022: To amend the Rules of Order for the Hopi Tribal Council to provide a streamlined process of the Tribal Council parliamentary procedures that will be followed during meetings of the Tribal Council. Author Marilyn Fredericks, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Bacavi
7. Action Item #094-2022: To approve Amendment to Consulting Agreement No. 22-013. Author Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa, Director, Hopi Department of Education and Workforce Development
8. Action Item #095-2022: To accept grant award in the amount of \$472,894 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime. Author Ronald Honyumptewa, Director, Department of Public Safety & Emergency Services

9. Action Item #096-2022: To amend the Position Description of the Executive Director. Author Mervin Yoyetewa, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Mishongnovi
10. Action Item #097-2022: To approve a new Employment Contract for Mr. Marc Roy for three (3) years effective November 9, 2022, to serve as Chief Judge of the Hopi Tribal Courts. Author Mervin Yoyetewa, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Mishongnovi. ****Time Certain, November 7, 2022, 12:30 pm (add-on 11/7/2022)**
11. Presentation/Review of DES Tribal Consultation Policy: Jocelyn Beard, Tribal Relations Manager, Office of Tribal Relations. ****Time Certain, November 7, 2022, 1:00 p.m.**
12. Discussion/Possible Action: Carlene Tenakhongva, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel. ****Time Certain, November 7, 2022, 3pm**
13. Discussion/Possible Action: Installation and connection of powerlines at Turquoise Well Complex. Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma, Chairman, The Hopi Tribe. ****Time Certain, November 9, 2022, 1:00 p.m.**
14. Interview for vacant position on the Hopi Election Board (1 candidate). ****Time Certain, November 9, 2022, 3:00 p.m.**
15. Further discussions with the Budget Oversight Team on budgets of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Executive Director, Election Board and Tutuveni ****Time Certain, November 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m.**
16. Presentation of the FY 2023 General Fund recommended budgets for final review and approval. Eugene Talas, Chairperson, Budget Oversight Team. ****Time Certain, November 21, 2022, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**
17. Presentation entitled "The Taking of Hopi Lands", a re-examination of the Hopi Land Claims and Land Dispute. Clay Hamilton, Geodetic Technician, Land Information Systems. ****Time Certain, November 23, 2022, 1:00pm - 5:00 pm.**
18. Discussion/Possible Action: Appointment of Raymond Namoki, Sipaulovi Tribal Council Representative, to the Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation's Board of Directors, as recommended by the Investment Committee. Mervin Yoyetewa, Mishongnovi Tribal Council

Representative

19. Discussion & Possible Action: Letter dated September 2, 2022 from Ronald Honahni, Governor, Upper Village of Moenkopi re: Request to Explore Gaming in the Upper Village of Moenkopi. Leroy Sumatzkuku, Tribal Council Representative, Upper Village of Moenkopi
20. Letter dated October 6, 2022 from Archie Duwahoyeoma, Bear Clan Elder/Village Leader, Mishongnovi Village re: Musanguuvi Village Elections. Rosa Honani, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Sipaulovi
21. Letter (undated) from Dale Siquah, Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages re: Fourth Priority Lower Colorado River Water Allocation at Cibola Farms for discussion and possible action. ****Time Certain, November 10, 2022, 1:00 p.m.**
22. Letter dated September 23, 2022 from Jayson Paymella re: Concerning Information in regards to the Village of Tewa's affairs. Wallace Youvella, Jr., Tribal Council Representative, First Mesa Consolidated Villages
23. Letter dated October 25, 2022 from Jack E. Harding, Jr., President, Hopi Day School Board. Anita Bahnimptewa, Tribal Council Representative, Village of Sipaulovi. ****Time Certain, November 22, 2022, 1:00 p.m.**

XII. REPORTS

1. Office of the Chairman
2. Office of the Vice Chairman
3. Office of Tribal Secretary
4. Office of the Treasurer
5. Office of Executive Director: Update Report/Directive/ HTC Resolution H-058-2021
6. Office of the General Counsel
7. Land Commission
8. Water/Energy Committee
9. Transportation Committee
10. Law & Order Committee: 2022 Comprehensive Report ****Time Certain, Nov. 23, 2022, 9am-12noon**
11. Investment Committee: ****Time Certain, Nov. 22, 2022, 9am- 12noon.**
12. Health/Education Committee
13. Update on the status of the Settlement's approval before the Department of Justice in Hopi Tribe v. U.S. Fred Lomayesva, General Counsel

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

After Stealing Sacred Hopi Indian Artifacts, Three Archeology Thieves Believe They are now Being Hunted Down by Spirits of Vengeance

Disclaimer: This story contains language sensitive to the Hopi people.

Reprint of a story by JAQ EVANS a writer based out of Seattle, Washington

Shungopavi, Arizona—Summer 1978

The cave was small, hidden by rocks and the graceful wall of sandstone that climbed toward Shungopavi village. If the sun had been just a little higher in the sky, the two lanky, white men at the base of Second Mesa (the area encompassing three Hopi villages) might have missed it altogether.

They'd been exploring the outskirts of the Hopi reservation for hours, picking their way between cacti and milkweed while avoiding the eyes of any children who might be playing atop the tall, flat-topped hill that sat like an island in the Arizona desert. Rewards thus far had been slim, and they were almost ready to call it a day. But the sun was setting, and its waning light revealed an unnatural divot in the stone.

"Climb up and see," Randall "Randy" Morris, age 21, urged his friend James "Jimmy" Lee Hinton. Jimmy, a rangy 22-year-old archeology student at Glendale Community College, braced his hands against the rocks and hefted himself up for a closer look. The stones blocking the entrance had clearly been placed there to deflect attention; Jimmy moved a few aside and nearly stumbled back down the slope.

"Randy," he called, his gaze still fixed on the cave, heart thudding fast. "We're going to need the car."

Inside the cave were four gnarled figurines carved from cottonwood root, each about three feet long. Three lay on a mat of feathers with their heads pillowed by a log, surrounded by braided prayer bracelets and prayer sticks made of cotton twine. The fourth, twisted like a figure eight, leaned against the sandstone wall as if protective of the others. Jimmy didn't know exactly what he was looking at, except that it was one hell of a find: a hidden kiva, or prayer house, of katsina (pronounced "kah-TSEE-nah") dolls, the sacred objects carved to represent spiritual beings in the Hopi religion—and in some cases, far more than represent.

But to the two pothunters, these four idols represented something else entirely. Thanks to the growing appetites of museums and private collectors, the antiquities market in the 1970s was booming. Well-decorated Sikyatki pots could sell for thousands of dollars—the equivalent of \$50,000 or more today. Whatever these dolls were, Jimmy was confident they'd pay him better than a part time shift on an Arizona ranch.

The idols were large, though, and the cave was awkwardly situated. Shrieks and laughter tumbled down from the village where children played in the fading light. If they looked off the side of the mesa, they'd see him. Jimmy, tan and black-haired, could pass for Hopi at a distance, but Randy was much fairer skinned; anyone who noticed the pair poking around the rocks would likely think they are thieves.

Jimmy skidded back down the hillside and ushered Randy back where they'd left the car. Sweat soaked his headband as he described his find, not lingering on the feather bed or the careful arrangement of the figures. Those details troubled Jimmy a little, and he thought they would trouble Randy more. Bad enough that Randy was traveling with his wife, who'd stayed behind in nearby Winslow; unlike Jimmy's wife, who at least understood the value of quick cash, she wasn't a fan of pothunting. The last thing Jimmy needed was more fuel for Randy's guilty conscience.

Soon it was agreed. They would return later, when Shungopavi was descending into sleep.

Only one road cut through the Hopi reservation: Arizona State Route 264, a two-lane stretch

of asphalt that ran from Tuba City, Arizona to the New Mexico state line. As twilight approached that evening, Jimmy and Randy parked their Chevrolet Vega hatchback alongside this highway a few miles away from Second Mesa, not wanting their headlights to attract attention.

Northern Arizona by night was a different animal. While not the official Big Sky Country, the sky above Hopi lands stretched out across the state without borders or light pollution. On cloudless nights, sneaking around was nearly impossible unless you kept low to the ground, slipping through the desert like a rattlesnake. But this was not Jimmy and Randy's first rodeo. The looters brought small flashlights but kept them off on the way to the cave, relying on moonlight to avoid walking into a spiny patch of cholla or tripping on something's burrow.

When they reached the mesa, Jimmy used his penlight to locate the patch of cliff he'd scrambled up earlier that day. This time Randy went first, Jimmy close at his heels. The cave seemed larger in the dark. Deeper. Their narrow shafts of light illuminated such a tiny piece of that open mouth, casting the idols in blacker shadow.

The standing doll no longer struck Jimmy as vigilant. Now it looked downright baleful to him, glaring at the men as they invaded its peace. Jimmy quickly averted his gaze as Randy grabbed the first of the sleeping figurines and handed it down. (Not sleeping, he told himself. They were only carved pieces of cottonwood root.) Randy saved the standing idol for last, and Jimmy hesitated a moment before taking it. The skin at the back of his neck tightened. Cold sweat collected underneath his arms. Just artifacts. He pulled the final carving from the cave.

Together, Jimmy and Randy maneuvered the four idols down to the base of the mesa. It was immediately apparent that carrying all four carvings at once would be difficult, so after a hushed debate, the pothunters hid their treasure underneath a snakeweed bush and went to fetch the car.

The walk back up Route 264 was tense. If they were found, they might be arrested. Or shot. Either way they'd lose out on potentially tens of thousands of dollars each. And Jimmy still felt the standing idol's eyes on him, tiny black holes above a larger slash of mouth. But that was just the hungry night acting on his nerves.

The two men kept their headlights off as they drove slowly and carefully back to Shungopavi village. It was nearly 9 o'clock now, and adrenaline was high. All they had to do was load up the idols and get out of Hopi territory, and then they could find a buyer and relax with their earnings. Jimmy, who'd started his pothunting career in his teens and used the cash to fund his extracurriculars of heroin and cocaine, was already picturing how he'd spend his cut.

But as they stashed the third idol in the back of the car, headlights blared across the desert road.

"Hide that," Randy hissed, gesturing at the last and smallest doll. Jimmy rolled it under a creosote bush, stepping up beside Randy just as the approaching car reached them. The insignia on its side sent a new chill down his spine: a Native game warden from one of the neighboring Hopi villages.

"You two out here hunting?"

"Coyote," Jimmy improvised. Coyotes were one of the few animals legal to hunt year-round in Arizona, due to the threat they posed to livestock, and, if asked, he and Randy both had valid hunting licenses. He reached around Randy and popped the hood. "But we ran out of brake fluid."

"Bad luck. Here, I can help you out." The game warden turned back to his vehicle.

"Thanks," Randy said. "We appreciate the hand."

They accepted a small bottle of brake fluid, assuring the older man they'd be more careful about driving around the mesas at night. Jimmy's stomach was a mess of nerves, but neither he nor Randy cracked as the game warden climbed back into his car and pulled away, sticking one hand out the window to wave. When the taillights faded into pinpricks in the distance, they collapsed into their own vehicle, half-drunk on hiding four stolen katsina idols right under the official's nose.

Jimmy wheeled the car around so fast they kicked up a cloud of dust and let out a whoop of victory before stepping on the gas back to Winslow. It was only when Randy's wife greeted them at the Best Western Motel that they realized the smallest idol was still beneath a bush at Second Mesa.

Shungopavi village was not doing well in the year since the theft, and the air was thick with suspicion.

Neighbor accused neighbor. Priests heard crying in the night, carried to them over the cold winter wind. The three stolen sacred objects, still missing, were an open wound that would not heal—because they weren't just representations of deities. To the Hopis, they were alive.

Called taalawtumsi (pronounced "tah-LAO-toom-see"), the four sacred objects were considered living entities, precious katsina friends that were central to the Hopi religion. They were known as Dawn Woman, Corn Maiden's Husband, Corn Maiden and Corn Maiden's Daughter, a family of deities that played an essential role in helping young Hopi men transition to adulthood. The ritual of Astotokya took place every four winters, and without participating in this rite, young men were barred from helping with sacred ceremonies to plant corn or draw rain.

With the taalawtumsi missing, not only could that initiation not take place, but the tribe was forced to reckon with a very human loss. These idols weren't just cottonwood and feathers. They could feel, hurt and cry out for home. Whoever had taken them had committed a crime tantamount to kidnapping, a brutal act that had begun to poison the community at large.

Looting wasn't an isolated threat. Police Chief Ivan Sidney, a short but broad-shouldered Hopi tribal leader, reckoned that up to a third of their sacred objects lived in museums or with collectors by 1980. Jimmy Lee Hinton and Randy Morris were part of a century-old practice of stealing from the tribe with no regard for the damage they were inflicting.

The Hopi population, already small due to their insular way of life, was declining. Unemployment hovered around 50% in a good year, and alcoholism and drug addiction had been carefully seeded into the reservation for generations. Selling sacred objects from one's own village was, for some, a way to make desperately-needed cash.

This put the Hopis in an ugly spot when it came to investigating looters—especially because many tribal officials wouldn't go outside the reservation for help. They believed their spirits would punish thieves far more than any white court of law. But this crime was worse than a missing pot or two: the loss of the taalawtumsi had very real implications for the tribe's future. In the months following the theft, different factions in the village became convinced that the others were responsible. Chief Sidney smelled violence in the wind.....

Conclusion to be published in the next Edition

MISSING PERSON

PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT

2120 North Central Avenue
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004

Departmental Reports: 202200001718660

BULLETIN #: 1718660
DATE: 11/16/22

MISSING PERSON



MISSING PERSON: Erica Denise Namoki, AKA "Eric" and "Coach," 33 years of age at the time of disappearance, 5' 04" tall, 120 pounds, brown eyes and black hair. Erica has tattoos on her arms and neck.

DATE MISSING: September 25, 2022.

NARRATIVE: On September 25, 2022, Erica Namoki was last seen in the area of South 31st Avenue and West Washington Street in Phoenix, Arizona. Erica's family is concerned for her welfare.

Anyone having information regarding this case is asked to contact the Phoenix Police Department Missing and Unidentified Persons Unit at (602) 534-2121. After hours: (602)262-6141

Detective Lopez #8489
602-261-8120

Sergeant Feist #8027
602-534-2121

Navajo Nation reports 45 communities with high COVID transmission

**KNAU News Talk
Arizona Public Radio**

Forty-five communities on the Navajo Nation have reported high transmission of COVID-19.

That's based on case counts from the first two full weeks of November and include Ganado, Kayenta, Chinle and other areas.

The tribe last week reported 417 new known cases and two deaths related to the virus.

This week, Navajo Nation officials updated two health orders that **reiterate the reservation-wide requirement that residents and visitors wear masks indoors in public**

and urge avoiding unnecessary travel and social distancing, disinfecting high-touch surface areas and washing hands while engaging in public activities.

Tribal leaders are encouraging all residents to update their vaccines, boosters and flu shots.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Navajo County is currently in a high rate of COVID transmission and Apache and Coconino Counties are at a medium level, along with several other Arizona counties.



The Village Crier Appreciates Your Ideas, Feedback, and Suggestions. We welcome your Announcements, News Article, Letters to Editor, Advertisements, etc. Let us know what you would like to read in the Village Crier by mail at: the Village Crier, P.O. Box 260, Polacca, AZ 86042 or by telephone at 928-37-2670.

**Holbrook Annual Parade of Lights
Saturday, December 3, 6pm**

The parade will begin on West Florida Street then travel west to Navajo Blvd, before going South to Hopi Drive where it will turn west to 12th Avenue

This year's theme is Christmas Around the World. Entry forms are available at the Navajo County Historic Courthouse at 100 E. Arizona Street or by visiting www.holbrookazchamber.org

Apply Now

THE HOPI TRIBE

Hopi Board of Education

Make a **difference** for Hopi Education,
build a pathway to empower our children...

Become a member of the Hopi Board of Education to determine a Hopi Education System that's inclusive of Hopi values, principles, and language!

Candidate qualification requirements, application and other information for the Hopi Board of Education are available at:

<https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/department-of-education/>
<https://www.hopischoolsystem.org>
Contacting Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa at 928-734-3501,
or via email NSakiestewa@hopi.nsn.us

All Applications are due by November 30, 2022, 5:00 p.m. MST by returning to Dr. Noreen Sakiestewa

The Hopi Board of Education & the Hopi Education Transition Team are seeking nominations for 4 board members to represent the following attendance areas:

- Keams Canyon Elementary School
- First Mesa Elementary School
- Hotevilla Bacavi Community School
- At Large Member (Represents Entire Hopi Reservation)

**HOPi SCHOOL SYSTEM
TRANSITION FACT SHEET & UPDATE #2
NOVEMBER 2022
www.hopischoolsystem.org**

- TRANSITION ON TRACK.** We continue to be on track to meet the July 1, 2023 deadline to transition to the unified Hopi School System (HSS), with the Hopi Board of Education (HBE) serving as the school board for all Hopi schools. Included in Fact Sheet & Update #1 (Oct. 2022), a "Two-Year Transition Plan" will be followed to allow for a smooth transition. The P.L. 100-297 Grant Application and applicable policies and procedures, which are based on existing Hopi school policies, are nearly complete.
- CURRENT STAFF MAINTAIN THEIR JOBS FOR 2023/2024 SCHOOL YEAR.**
 - Current local school boards will issue **ALL STAFF CONTRACTS FOR THE 2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR.** As previously shared at Town Halls and other staff meetings, when HBE becomes the school board, these contracts will be transferred to the HBE. HBE will honor **ALL** existing contracts and will **NOT** dismiss or let go any staff for the 2023/24 school year (unless, of course, a staff member violates his/her contract). HBE's goal is the retention of our dedicated and qualified staff.
 - Current schools' administrative staff are highly respected and will remain in their current positions for the **ENTIRETY** of 2023/24 school year. Under the Two-Year Transition Plan, the HSS will need schools' current administrative staff to remain in their positions for the 2023/2024 school year.
- INFINITE VISIONS FINANCIAL/HR SOFTWARE.** The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) has approved the full start-up cost (\$103,360) to pay for the "School ERP Pro Infinite Visions" financial and human resource software (currently used by the HJSHS and 92% of all AZ public schools). This funding will cover all staff training and installation costs and will take place mid to late 2023.
- CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE MODULARS.** BIE has been conducting visits to the site for the Central Administration Office modulars at the HJSHS throughout the fall 2022 and will continue to do so until the modulars are complete. BIE has informed HBE that the modulars are in construction right now. Primary site preparation and utilities construction will begin in the spring 2023 and will be completed by April 2023. Modulars will be delivered and be ready for occupancy in early May 2023.
- NEW UNIFORM CURRICULUM FOR 2024/25 SY.** The HSS curriculum will be determined mid to late 2023 and will include the hiring of a Curriculum and Instruction Specialist and consultation with staff and stakeholders. Once the curriculum is determined, staff will receive training in the spring and summer 2024. New uniform curriculum across all Hopi schools will begin with the 2024/2025 school year.
- NO SCHOOL CLOSURES.** No Hopi school will close as a result of the transition to the HSS.
- ATTENDANCE AREA BOUNDARIES.** The HBE has gathered significant input and data from all Hopi schools on how the attendance area policy may impact their students and is continuing to examine and get stakeholder input to ensure impacts are minimal and stakeholder concerns are being addressed.
- MEETINGS.** HBE continues to meet with local school boards, parent action committees, and other education stakeholders to answer questions and provide updates on the transition to the unified HSS.