



# The Village Crier

February 8, 2021

Volume 2, Issue No. 4

*Powa Muyaw* Month of Purification & Renewal

## First heavy snow fall in First Mesa dissolves quickly



Now you see it . . . Now you don't

### First Mesa Village Crier Staff

On President's Day, First Mesa residents woke up to a heavy blanket of snow; only to be disappointed as the snow quickly dissolved.

Children; enjoyed their time outdoors playing in the snow, making snow angels and snowmen; while others enjoyed sledging down the hills.

Adults reminisced about the 'gold-ole days' when rain and snow was abundant and nourished the land and were happy with the brief snow

fall. The heaviest in several years.

The land has been in a drought status for many years and the first heavy snow fall was a welcoming sight.



## Sacred springs at Blue Bird Canyon desecrated and polluted



## Hearing to Consider Nominee Deb Haaland for Secretary of the Interior set for Feb. 23

Washington, DC - confirmation hearing for Interior Secretary nominee Rep. Deb Haaland is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 23,

at 9:30am ET and will be live-streamed on the committee website.

Haaland represents

New Mexico's 1st Congressional District and is a member of the Laguna Pueblo, born in Winslow, AZ

terior, was a historic victory for Indigenous leaders who campaigned relentlessly to elevate one of their own to a powerful federal seat that oversees natural resources, public lands and Indian affairs.

Haaland is a favorite among the young, diverse progressive activists who lobbied the Biden team and House Democratic leadership to select her over others with closer ties to the Democratic Party establishment.

During her short time in Congress, she has

won support from members of both parties, including GOP Rep. Don Young of Alaska, who praised her work as a vice chair on the House Committee on Natural Resources and described her as a "consensus builder."

She also served as the chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.

In November, 50 House democrats signed a letter recommending her for the Cabinet job as Secretary of the Interior.



If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Haaland will make history as the first Native American Cabinet secretary in U.S. History and head of the Department of the Interior.

If confirmed, Haaland will be sixth in line to the presidency as Interior secretary, according to the White House.

Biden's selection of Haaland to lead the Department of the In-



# Hopi Way of Life: Tradition, Religion and Governance

Village Administrator's Corner  
 By Ivan Sidney, FMCV Administrator

Our Traditional Leaders often talk about why they were instructed to protect and maintain the Hopi tradition, religion and way of life. They now talk about how it is becoming closer to losing our native way of life. Not only our native ways, but our language and our physical identity.

Historically, the objective of the Federal Government was to take away our Native culture, religion, culture and streamline us into the dominant Anglo society. Our leaders were instructed to hold on to the Hopi way to save the entire

Native American people. The true sovereignty that Tribal Council's claim today, is really our traditional and religious governments. Our traditional governments are unique, in that Church and State are one.

During the flute dance, we all publicly witness the tiponi (sacred bundle) of our Kikmongwi. During the initiations, we also witness the tiponi of our Katsin Mongwi and the Soyal Mongwi's tiponi during Soyalang which many men still practice today. Some ceremonies such as Snake Dance are gone since the Antelope Priest

chose not to pass his tiponi on to his nephews. At First Mesa, each clan holds their own tiponi and not someone from another clan. Our village is criticized for no longer practicing Wuchimu. That ceremony was taken from Awatovi after the village was destroyed.

As long as there is still the presence of our sacred paraphernalia, such as tiponi's, it is entirely each person's acknowledgement from respect and religious obligations to accept that we still maintain the authority to declare our village a true traditional sovereign.

For over the past twenty-four years, I have watched the Tribal Council's failure to acknowledge First Mesa Villages as a consolidation, with kikmongwi as the leader. There are records and documents, that exists, of when the Hopi Constitution was being written and how the consolidation was established by agreement of the Hopi & Tewa Leaders at First Mesa.

Of all tribal constitutions, the Hopi Tribal Constitution is unique because it includes our traditional way of government.

The writer of the con-

stitution, Oliver LaFarge explained that the Hopi Constitution can best be interpreted by the Hopi People.

Today, we are in turmoil because we have allowed non-Hopi's, such as Tribal Lawyers, interpret the constitution mostly to enhance politics.

So how do we change in the middle of this political quagmire to regain our government for the betterment of our village? To best explain our religion and history of the Hopi Constitution, it is best to explain using the Hopi Language.

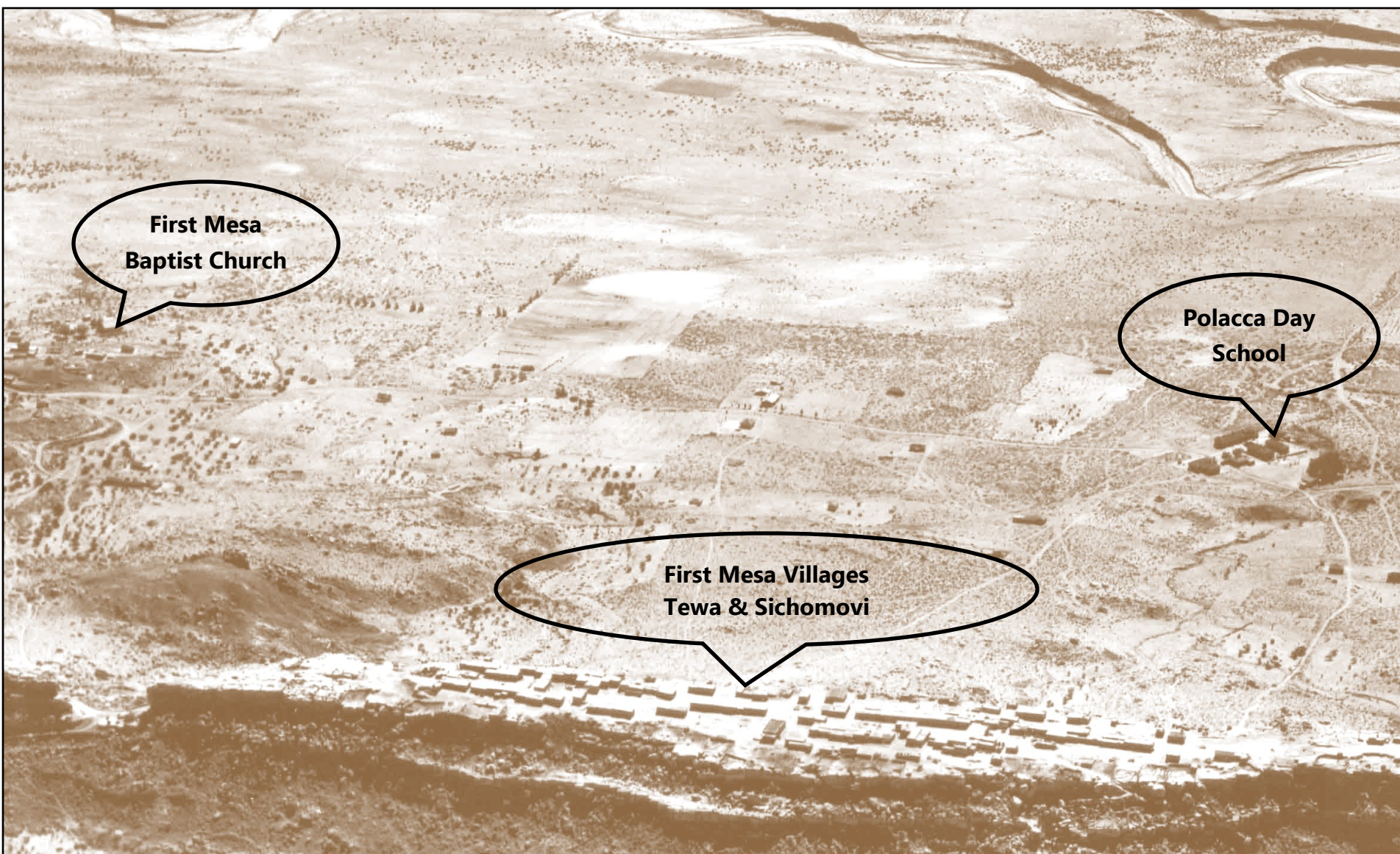
We are losing our lan-

guage at a fast rate. Is it not too late to include in our Hopi High School curriculum a course in the Hopi language, Hopi Constitution and Hopi history as a requirement to graduate?

It is our children and grandchildren's traditional future that is rapidly facing the danger of extinction. We must begin with our children to protect and enhance our Hopi way of life. We as grandparents can set examples by embracing our children, display our admirations and show our commitment to unity.

## With years of Village Funding from the Hopi Tribe, Where is the Development and Improvements

Aerial photo of First Mesa, taken by Charles Lindberg in 1929. Although there are now more homes and Highway 264 that now crosses through Polacca, the area remains basically the same with no development; except for the Health Care Center and Schools. How are the Community Development Offices (original name before Administrations) using tribal allocations to make improvement to the community.





# What do Villages have to show after 24 years of tribal funding

# The Hopi Tribe CARES Act Committee CRF Awards & Expenditures Village Report as of Dec 31

By Ivan Sidney  
FMCV Administrator

It is on record how much village allocations the village offices of Walpi, Sichomovi and Tewa have received from the Hopi Tribe over the past 24 years.

**Yearly Village Funding:**  
\$300,00 avg per village x 3 = \$900,000 x 24 yrs = \$21,600,000 approximately.

**QUESTION:** What has been shown for use of the approximately \$21,600,000 and are we better off today? Where is the accountability? Were the village boards approved by the Traditional Leaders according to the requirements of the Constitution.

In addition to the yearly village allocations as stated above, a recent report to the Hopi Tribal Council by Hopi Treasurer Wilfred Gaseoma shows funding from the CARES Act was made available to the Villages and an Expenditure Report of the Hopi CARES Act Committee, and amounts expended by First Mesa Villages as follows:

**CARES ACT Funds:**  
First Mesa Consolidated Vlgs  
**\$44,673.64**

Walpi Village  
**\$356,928.00**

Sichomovi Village  
**\$1,281,525.34**

Tewa Village  
**\$2,230,450.00**

YuWehloo PahKi  
**\$1,602,428.25**

It is recommended that you request a copy of this report to review what was purchased by your respective villages. It is your responsibility to determine if this funding benefits you or your family's recovery from COVID-19 and/or ensures prevention from the coronavirus. It has been reported that most of this funding was used to purchase equipment and or storage units and buildings.

It has also been reported that the Hopi Tribe expended \$24,240,629.51 of YOUR funding, for their own program's development, aside from the

true purpose of the funds.

All the villages except FMCV signed an agreement to receive the funding and submit reports for federal audits. How are the audits to be conducted when the three villages and YuWehloo Pahki Community, all under First Mesa lands, were never approved by our Traditional Leaders? The CARES Act funding was based on population and primarily to prevent and cope with COVID-19.

Where was all the assistance this weekend when the water pumps failed on the Mesa. It took two days for our operators to fix the problem and restore the water.

As long as I have served as FMCV Administrator, I have never witnessed one cent offered by the villages to assist with water operations, which is a critical and direct service to the community. I have only heard years of criticism due to the Polacca wells being high in contaminants. In fact, one village refused to pay their water service for the year 2020, calling our water arsenic water, and had their lawyer harass our office. FMCV does not receive any funding allocations from the tribe and solely operates and maintains the cost of pumping and maintaining the wells and water/sewer lines. It will finally be a reality when the Hopi Tribe Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP) is complete and will be nearly free of any arsenic.

When is enough, enough? Our traditional leaders never relinquished their sovereign authority to the government and the Hopi Tribal Council. The constitution basically remains as it was approved by the Secretary of the Interior in 1936.

The Kikmongwi and the Traditional Leaders now call on President Joe Biden to commit the Federal Government's trust responsibility to investigate the years of violations.

The government created and approved the constitution and must act to enforce the purpose of this federal document. Our Leaders stand ready to defend their traditional responsibility and the tponi they have been entrusted to uphold.

Awardee Category	Award Amount	Passed Through	Balance to Pass Through	Expended By	Award Not Expended
First Mesa Consolidated Villages	\$ 44,673.64	\$ 44,673.64	\$ -	\$ 44,673.64	\$ -
Orayvi Village	3,436,838.28	3,350,593.08	86,245.20	2,380,109.57	1,056,728.71
YuWehlooPahki Community	1,602,428.25	1,449,551.29	152,876.96	857,150.19	745,278.06
Village of Sichomovi	1,281,525.34	946,657.34	334,868.00	386,794.64	894,730.70
Village of Tewa	2,230,450.00	951,650.00	1,278,800.00	-	2,230,450.00
Village of Moencopi (Lower)	1,445,624.94	967,441.94	478,183.00	749,321.09	696,303.85
Kykotsmovi Village	1,371,796.28	1,015,437.28	356,359.00	930,789.86	441,006.42
Upper Village of Moenkopi	2,014,740.00	1,323,250.00	691,490.00	-	2,014,740.00
Village of Shungopavi	2,006,122.73	1,629,770.23	376,352.50	1,057,488.27	948,634.46
Village of Mishongnovi	1,875,887.66	1,145,209.18	730,678.48	862,473.95	1,013,413.71
Village of Sipaulovi	1,613,537.66	1,218,861.29	394,676.37	1,288,583.06	324,954.60
Village of Walpi	356,928.00	356,928.00	-	38,150.00	318,778.00
Village of Bacavi	583,538.80	150,000.00	433,538.80	219,895.53	363,643.27
Village of Hotevilla	1,978,785.05	872,203.00	1,106,582.05	311,293.98	1,667,491.07
<b>Total CRF Awards and Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 21,842,876.63</b>	<b>\$ 15,422,226.27</b>	<b>\$ 6,420,650.36</b>	<b>\$ 9,126,723.78</b>	<b>\$ 12,716,152.85</b>

Awardee Category / Entity	Project Amount	Award Amount	Expended By Tribe	Subrecipients	
				Passed Through	Expended By
<b>General Welfare Assistance (GWEAP)</b>					
Awards to Members	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ 20,000,000.00	\$ 20,111,200.00		
Program Administration	50,394.00	50,394.00	97,506.14		
<b>Total GWEAP</b>	<b>\$ 20,050,394.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,050,394.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,208,706.14</b>		

<b>Villages</b>					
Awardee Category	Award Amount	Passed Through	Balance to Pass Through	Expended By	Award Not Expended
First Mesa Consolidated Villages	\$ 44,673.64	\$ 44,673.64	\$ -	\$ 44,673.64	\$ -
Village of Walpi	356,928.00	356,928.00	-	356,928.00	38,150.00
Laundromat Trailer	84,055.00				
Minor Projects, Equipment, etc.	259,182.00				
Reimbursements	13,691.00				
Village of Sichomovi	1,281,525.34	946,657.34	334,868.00	386,794.64	894,730.70
Backhoe	100,000.00				
Porta Pumper	200,000.00				
Heating Units	418,000.00				
Minor Projects, Equipment, etc.	514,868.00				
Reimbursements	48,657.34				
Village of Tewa	2,230,450.00	951,650.00	1,278,800.00	-	2,230,450.00
Bathrooms for Residents	350,000.00				
Water/sewer System Upgrades	250,000.00				
Backhoe	140,000.00				
Septic Pumper	185,000.00				
Rooftop Solar Units	100,000.00				
Modular Bath/Shower Facilities	100,000.00				
Minor Projects, Equipment, etc.	1,105,450.00				
YuWehlooPahki Community	1,602,428.25	1,449,551.29	152,876.96	857,150.19	745,278.06
Laundry Trailer	100,145.00				
Backhoe	140,000.00				
Septic Pumper	185,000.00				
Isolation Quarters	400,000.00				
Minor Projects, Equipment, etc.	563,117.84				
Reimbursements	214,165.41				



**FIRST MESA CONSOLIDATED VILLAGES**

**First Mesa Council Representative's Reports**

**Report by TERO Director regarding advise given by Executive Director**

By Albert T. Siquah  
Hopi Tribal Council, Representing First Mesa Consolidated Villages

In a report to the Tribal Council, Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) Director Brent Honanie reported that he was concerned about advise given to him by Executive Director Dorma Sahneyah, advising him not to charge the required Contractor Fees for work performed on the Hopi Reservation by contractors. Honanie informed Council that the Revenue Commissioner was also given the

same advise.

The information reported was very concerning to the Council as the TERO office and Office of the Revenue Commission are bound by an Ordinance enacted by the legislative council.

An ordinance is a law that cannot be changed by any individual or persons; except through a Resolution approved by the Council. Disregard for

the law, can have serious consequences.

Council discussed the issue at length and a motion was made and approved, requesting the two Department Directors provide a full written report to the Council.

The concern is to assure that Tribal Ordinances were not compromised, causing a loss of funds/fees paid to the Hopi Tribe by contractors.

**Hopi Tribal Housing Authority Board of Commissioners**

By Albert T. Siquah  
Hopi Tribal Council, Representing FMCV

As a representative of the Hopi Tribal Council, I was appointed to serve on the Hopi Tribal Housing Authority (HTHA) Board of Commissioners (BOC).

Recently, I was appointed to the position of Chairman of the HTHA Interim BOC and my nomination was fully ratified, by majority vote of the Tribal Council, on Feb. 9

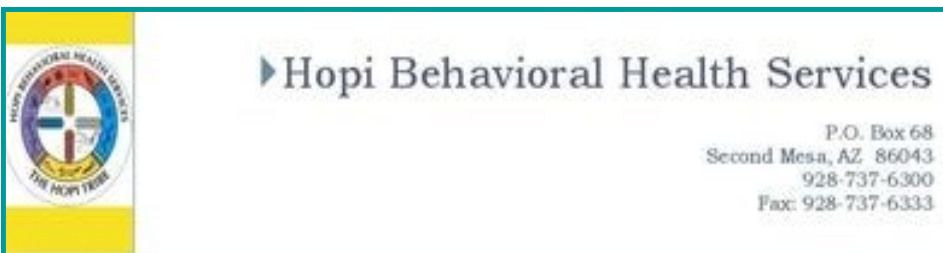
I want to encourage all village members to stay safe and healthy by following all established protocols to protect yourselves and your families from the COVID-19 epidemic. We have lost too many members of our village to the coronavirus.

**FMCV Hours of Operation**

The FMCV office is Open for business by Telephone only at 928-737-2670:

Monday – Friday : 10am-2pm (closed 12-1)  
Customers may call-in during these days Open Hours to make water payments via credit card, or send money order via U.S. mail to: FMCV, PO Box 260, Polacca, AZ 86042.

M.O. payments may also be placed in the drop box outside the door. A receipt will be mailed.



**Hopi Behavioral Health Services**  
P.O. Box 68  
Second Mesa, AZ 86043  
928-737-6300  
Fax: 928-737-6333


**The COVID - 19 PANDEMIC CAN BE STRESSFUL YOU ARE NOT ALONE!!**

Hopi Behavioral Health Services is aware of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has on our Hopi/Tewa community. Fear and anxiety about this new disease and the unknown can be overwhelming and cause emotional strain on you and your family. We have all suffered multiple and significant losses during these trying times.

**If you're feeling...**

**OVERWHELMED, FEARFUL, WORRIED, OR HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE, THE FOLLOWING ARE AVAILABLE RESOURCES DURING THIS PANDEMIC**

<b>For Emergencies:</b>		
Hopi Law Enforcement	928-734-7340	OR 911
	928-401-7792	
Hopi CPS	928-401-7557	
<b>Crisis Resources:</b>		
Hopi Behavioral Health	928-737-6300	
Northern Arizona Crisis Hotline	1-877-756-4090	
SAMHSA's National Helpline	1-800-662-HELP (4357)	
National Suicide Prevention	1-800-273-TALK (8255)	
Crisis Text Line text	NATIVE to 741741	
Trevor Project (LGBTQ2S)	1-866-488-7386	
Trans Lifeline	1-877-565-8860	
Veteran's Crisis Hotline	1-800-273-TALK (8255)	
■ Crisis chat or text	8388255	



**apsFYI**  
Resources for Customers in Need

APS has announced several programs are available to customers who need assistance paying their energy bills. Qualified customers can receive 25% off their bill with our Energy Support program, and Crisis Bill Assistance provides up to \$800 a year to cover current or past-due APS bills

[aps.com/assistance](https://aps.com/assistance)

**TRADITIONAL LEADERS**

James Tewayguna  
Kikmongwi

Leo Lacapa, Jr.  
Soyal Mongwi

Sam Tenakhongva  
Katsin Mongwi

Dickson Silas  
Kikmongwi Spokesman

Albert Siquah  
Kikmongwi Spokesman

Albert Silas  
Kikmongwi Spokesman

**FMCV STAFF:**

Ivan Sidney  
Village Administrator

Brannon Sidney  
Accountant

Merideth Qotswisiwma  
Water Clerk

Alphonso Sakeva, Jr  
Water Operator

Joshua Huma  
Public Safety Officer

Ramon Howato  
Public Safety Officer

Louella Furcap  
Editor Village Crier

**TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Albert Siquah

Dale Siquah

Wallace Youvella, Sr.

Wallace Youvella, Jr.

**PUBLICATION**

The Village Crier is published on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Articles, announcements, etc. are due Thursday before publication.

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# Hopi Health Care Center Renovation and Expansion Project



Hopi Health Care Center

## First Mesa Village Crier Staff

The Hopi Health Care Center (HHCC), located in First Mesa was built as an ambulatory care unit, not an inpatient care hospital. HHCC currently serves approximately 7,000 people from both the Hopi and Navajo tribes and is now in need of renovation and expansion.

In Oct. 2020, a Request for Qualification (RFQ) was posted through public notice requesting bids from qualified companies to “provide construction services inclusive of commissioning and construction phase services for proposed renovation and expansion to the existing Hopi Health Care Facility.” The deadline for RFQ’s was Dec. 22, 2020 and review and awarding of the Bids will commence soon.

The areas to be renovated and/or expanded include the Outpatient clinic, the Emergency Department (ER), Pharmacy, Laboratory and Administrative Offices. The project will include demolition, landscaping parking and widewalk improvements at certain locations.

A story on the HHCC renovation and expansion project will be posted in the March 8 edition of the Village Crier.... Stay tuned.

## COVID-19 Vaccines

### What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

Accessible version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.htm>

COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19. You may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. These side effects **may feel like flu** and **may even affect your ability** to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.

#### Common side effects

<b>On the arm where you got the shot:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain</li> <li>• Swelling</li> </ul>	<b>Throughout the rest of your body:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Chills</li> <li>• Tiredness</li> <li>• Headache</li> </ul>
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#### Helpful tips

If you have pain or discomfort, talk to your doctor about taking an over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

To reduce pain and discomfort where you got the shot: To reduce discomfort from fever:

- Apply a clean, cool, wet washcloth over the area.
- Use or exercise your arm.
- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Dress lightly.

#### When to call the doctor

In most cases, discomfort from fever or pain is normal. Contact your doctor or healthcare provider:

- If the redness or tenderness where you got the shot increases after 24 hours
- If your side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days

#### Remember

- Side effects may feel like flu and even affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.
- With most COVID-19 vaccines, you will need 2 shots in order for them to work. Get the second shot even if you have side effects after the first one, unless a vaccination provider or your doctor tells you not to get a second shot.
- It takes time for your body to build protection after any vaccination. COVID-19 vaccines that require 2 shots may not protect you until a week or two after your second shot.
- It's important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others, stay at least 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

#### HEALTHCARE PROVIDER, PLEASE FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW:

If your temperature is \_\_\_\_°F or \_\_\_\_°C or higher or if you have questions, call your healthcare provider.

Tell your healthcare provider about: **any symptoms NOT listed above or lasting more than 72 hours**

**Healthcare provider phone number:** CONTACT YOUR PCP

#### Medication (if needed):

Take \_\_\_\_\_ every \_\_\_\_\_ hours as needed.  
(type and dose or amount)



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

CS 321466-A 12/13/2020

# IHS - Hopi Health Care Center Community COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

#### Moderna First Dose of COVID-19 VACCINE CRITERIA

In order to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine, you MUST:

- 1) Be **18 years** of age or older
- 2) Live in the Hopi Health Care Center Service Unit Area
- 3) Must NOT have signs/symptoms of COVID-19
- 4) Must NOT be in isolation/quarantine for COVID-19
- 5) Must NOT have received another type of vaccine in the last 14



#### I meet the above criteria, how do I get my vaccine?

- Call **928-737-6049/6081** to schedule an appointment
- HHCC requires social & physical distancing, face masks MUST be worn at all times while inside the building, and hand sanitizer will be provided
- After you receive your vaccine, you will be **REQUIRED** to wait 15-30 minutes before leaving

#### I live in the HHCC Service Unit Area but I don't have a chart at HHCC, what do I do?

When you call to schedule your appointment, please request to establish a chart as well.

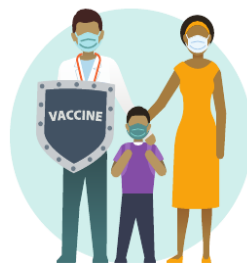
**Call 928-737-6049/6081  
to schedule an appointment**

## Vaccines (shots) are one of the tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.



To stop this pandemic, we need to use all of our prevention tools. Vaccines are one of the most effective tools to protect your health and prevent disease. Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses so **your body will be ready to fight the virus**, if you are exposed (also called immunity). Other steps, like wearing a mask that covers your nose and mouth and staying at least 6 feet away from other people you don't live with, also help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Studies show that COVID-19 **vaccines are very effective** at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. These vaccines cannot give you the disease itself.



**The vaccines are safe.** The U.S. vaccine safety system makes sure that all vaccines are as safe as possible. All the COVID-19 vaccines that are being used have gone through the same safety tests and meet the same standards as any other vaccines produced through the years. A system in place across the entire country that allows CDC to watch for safety issues and make sure the vaccines stay safe.

**Different types of COVID-19 vaccines will be available.** Most of these vaccines are given in two shots, one at a time and spaced apart. The first shot gets your body ready. The second shot is given at least three weeks later to make sure you have full protection. If you are told you need two shots, make sure that you get both of them. The vaccines may work in slightly different ways, but all types of the vaccines will help protect you.



[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines)

CS322256-A | 02/03/21



# Hopi Tribe Department of Health Services COVID-19 Emergency Response Report

Kykotsmovi, AZ- February 16, 2021  
With the vaccine out now for distribution across the country for several weeks, Americans are getting antsy thinking about returning to some semblance of normalcy. The thought of dining indoors, returning to work, and hanging out with friends in social spaces- and doing it all without a mask- sounds fun, but health experts continue to emphasize that we can't live without face coverings just yet. Echoing their warnings, Anthony Fauci, MD, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), says that you'll still need to wear a mask after you get both shots of the vaccine.

The vaccine is a powerful tool in preventing the spread of COVID-19, but it's not perfect. Fauci said that people who get the vaccine need to remember that you "could be prevented from getting the clinical disease and still have the virus that is in your nasopharynx because you can get infected." That would mean you'd be able to pass the virus on to others. While the vaccine will likely protect you from getting sick and experiencing intense side effects from COVID-19, Fauci wants people to remember that if you're walking around without a mask on, you

could pick up the virus and potentially be a carrier. And you could still get sick yourself. Fauci said the vaccine is 94 to 95 percent able to prevent "clinically recognizable disease," so the chances of seeing any COVID-19 symptoms once you're vaccinated are minimal.

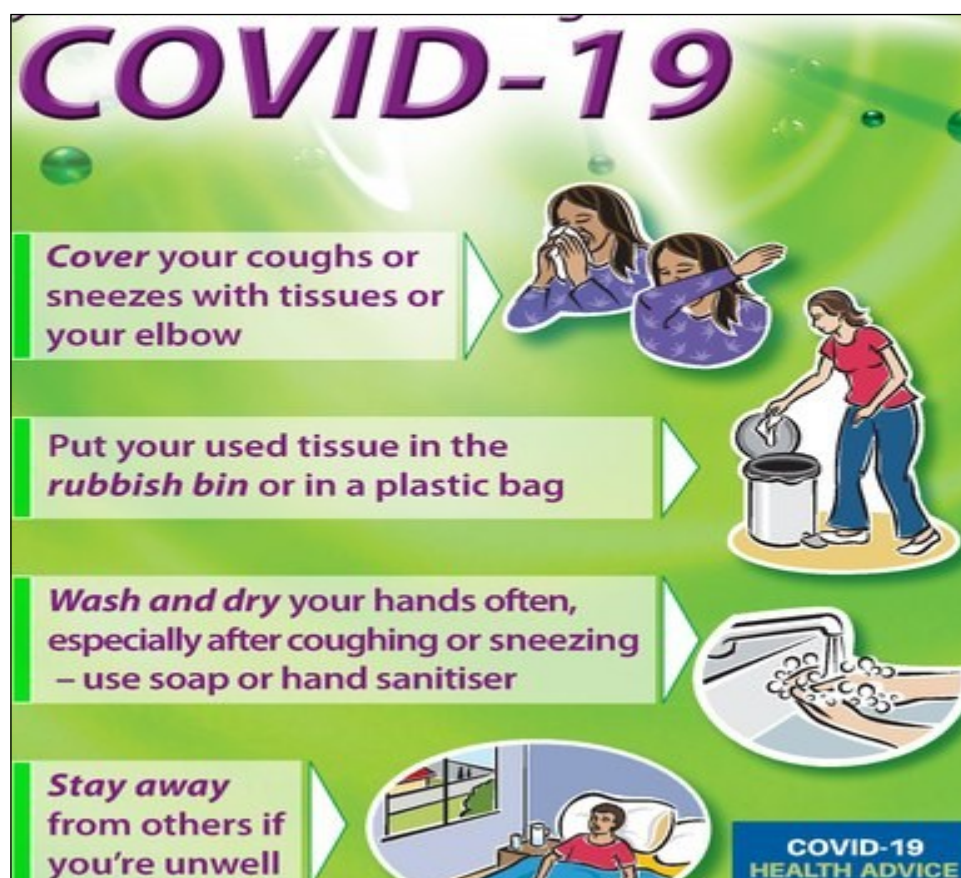
Here is a quick overview of the COVID-19 statistics on a national, state, and local level: As of February 16, 2021:

The United States now has approximately 27.54 million confirmed positive cases with 102,004 new cases and over 485,070 deaths reported.

Over 801,055 confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 15,301 are in Navajo County alone.

The Hopi Health Care Center has tested over 8,583 patients to this date. Over 1,350 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 978 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 257 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 1235 positive Hopi Tribal members.

The information below provides a glimpse of the current numbers in those respective villages.



The information presented, by villages, is released by the Hopi Department of Health & Human Services, and the data shown reflects patients tested at the Hopi Health Care Center and at the Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation specifically on Hopi tribal members. The data from Lower and Upper Munqapi is consolidated until specific data can be re-verified. (+) number decreased due to individual being identified from another village. The community of residence for one Hopi Tribal member who tested positive at HHCC is in the Phoenix metropolitan area. The community of residence for four Hopi Tribal members who tested positive at HHCC is in Winslow. The data here does not include all state-wide data from other facilities such as Flagstaff, Winslow, Phoenix or other hospitals.

\*Note: These data include newly added testing results from the Abbott ID NOW machine since April 20, 2020

\*\* A total of 1235+ individuals who tested positive are members of the Hopi Tribe.

+ Includes Village member(s) retested positive

**Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases\*  
February 16, 2021**

Number Tested Today	Cumulative Number Positive	Cumulative Number Negative	Total Number in Process	Total Tested
8	1,350	7,168	9	8,583

Number of Cases per Village as of February 16, 2021	Reported by HHCC	Reported by Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation	Total
Kiqötsmovi	100	26	126
Orayvi	26		26
Polacca (Walpi-Sitsom'ovi-Tewa)	265	9	274+
Musangnuvi	91		91
Supawlavi	58	1	59+
Söngoopavi	215		215+
Yuwelu-paki	12		12
Paaqavi	50		50
Hotvela	119	45	164(+)
Keams Canyon	35	10	45
Flagstaff		1	1
Munqapi	1	165*	166*
Phoenix	1		1
Winslow	4		4
Prescott	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>1235</b>

## PREVENTION:

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

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19:

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

Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally have mild illness.

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

# Navajo tribal members selected for key positions in Biden Administration

Courtesy reprint Navajo-Hopi Observer

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — Former state representative Arlando Teller and Wahleah Johns have been selected for positions in the Biden-Harris administration and a Navajo woman, Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren was appointed by the Apache County Board of Supervisor's to fill Teller's seat.

Armando Teller will serve as deputy assistant secretary for tribal affairs for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"I am really grateful for this opportunity, but know that I'm not doing this alone," Teller said. "There are mothers across many tribal nations that are hoping I listen to them and heed their concerns about school bus routes, bridges and the airports that fly community members in and out of rural communities throughout America."

Teller said part of his work will be assuring tribal transportation issues are heard, as well as advocating for funding.

"I am very excited and extremely honored," he added.

Teller resigned from his office as a state representative in Arizona after just being elected to a second term in November's election.

Teller is currently undergoing orientation and will work remotely until it is safe to relocate to Washington, D.C.

Wahleah Johns was selected to head the U.S. Office of Indian Energy Programs and Policy. She is the co-founder and director of Native Renewables, a company that brings solar energies to Native American homes and trains Navajo solar installers. She's also been a community organizer and advocate for water protection, and economic and environmental justice. She is also the chairwoman of the Navajo Green Economy Commission.

Johns grew up on and near the Navajo reservation, where about 15 percent of homes lack piped water and 10 percent lack electricity.

Without power lines, families on the reservation rely on batteries and gas generators. Johns said families can pay anywhere from roughly \$150 to \$700 a month just on fuels, depending on the season.

"And usually in the winter, it's more," she said.

The Office of Indian Energy's 2020 budget was \$22 million. The Trump administration requested only \$8 million for its 2021 budget.

The office has a staff of seven people, with three in Washington, D.C., and two each in Golden, Colorado, and Anchorage, Alaska.

To provide services to the nation's 574 tribes, the office works to promote Indian tribal energy development, efficiency and use, reduce or stabilize Indian tribal energy costs, strengthen Indian tribal energy infrastructure and electrify Indian land, housing and businesses.

Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren was appointed to serve as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, representing District 7, which includes a large portion of the Navajo Nation.

"We always tell our young Navajo people to get their education and help our people, and that's what Rep. Blackwater-Nygren is doing," said Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez. "As the legislative session continues in Arizona, we are looking forward to working with her on many issues."

Blackwater-Nygren resides in Red Mesa, Arizona. She is Hasht'ishnii and born for Áshjìhi. Her maternal grandfather's clan is Nooda'i dine'e tachiinii and her paternal grandfather's clan is Bitahnii. She will fill the seat vacated by Teller.

"Ahe'hee' to everyone who has supported my appointment to this position. I am humbled to be your Arizona House of Representative. I look forward to working with the people of LD7," said Blackwater-Nygren following the appointment by the Apache County Board of Supervisors.

Blackwater-Nygren earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a Juris Doctor from Arizona State University, and recently passed the Arizona Bar Association exam. She has worked at the grassroots level with the Red Mesa Chapter as well as an employee with the Navajo Nation Legislative Branch and Judicial Branch.

# Dept of Interior announces initial tribal consultations

WASHINGTON — The Department of the Interior announced today that it will host initial consultations with Tribal leaders next month. In addition to honoring and strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship, these steps will help ensure that future White House and Interior efforts at addressing the four converging crises of our time — COVID-19, economic security, racial justice and climate change — are inclusive of Tribal Nations' priorities and recommendations.

Today's actions open a new chapter with Tribal governments following President Biden's January 26 memorandum, which noted that respect for Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, fulfilling Federal trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations, and regular, meaningful and robust consultation with Tribal officials are of the utmost priority for the Administration. Interior has invited federal agencies to send representatives to listen to the sessions to inform how they might facilitate their own agency-specific consultations.

"Honoring our nation-to-nation relationship with Tribes and upholding the trust and treaty responsibilities to them are paramount to fulfilling Interior's mission. Meaningful consultations ensure we center Tribal voices as we address the health, economic, racial justice and climate crises — all of which disproportionately impact American Indians and Alaska

Natives," said Ann Marie Bledsoe Downes, Interior's designated Tribal Governance Officer and Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs.

Interior will notify all federally recognized Tribes of the consultation series today, and shared additional guidance to kickstart and facilitate a productive, meaningful process. Interior will hold four tribal consultation sessions in March to hear Tribal leaders' suggestions for federal policy and departmental actions, including identifying additional best practices to improve consultation and fortify Interior's relationship with Tribal governments. The sessions will be conducted by Indian Affairs' Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action via teleconference with Tribes in each of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' 12 regions:

Monday, March 8 (2:00-5:00 p.m. ET): Great Plains, Midwest and Rocky Mountain Regions

Wednesday, March 10 (10:00 am-1pm ET): Eastern, Eastern Oklahoma and Southern Plains Regions

Wednesday, March 10 (2:00-5:00 p.m. ET): Navajo, Southwest and Western Regions

Friday, March 12 (2-5 p.m. ET): Alaska, Northwest & Pacific Regions

The deadline for written comments on the consultation series is 12 p.m. ET on March 19. Comments can be submitted at [consultation@bia.gov](mailto:consultation@bia.gov).

# Presidents once spent time thinking about Native people in this country

*Indian Country Today.* Tribes to the White House. He said, at the time, he pledged to work with tribal leaders to establish a true government-to-government partnership.

Gradually, though, presidents spent less and less time thinking about American Indians. More and more of policy was delegated to Congress, the courts, and the Interior Department. This year perhaps it's worth considering what a country knows about its Indigenous people.

On April 29, 1994, President Clinton became the first President to invite the leaders of all federally recognized tribes or just ignored

tribes. Where the Trump administration has put most of its energy is into the resource extraction issues and working with the tribes that have coal and oil, for example.

To put it in a bigger context, the Obama administration kind of reached new heights. They started a Tribal Nations Conference that happened every year and had direct consultation with the tribes in a way that was unprecedented. And so they set the bar really high.

When we are students, most of us learn about city, county, state government. But what we don't learn is how tribes fit into our national system. Treaties, and tribal sovereignty, are complicated concepts that we hear about later, most often in news stories that involve conflict over jurisdiction, natural resources or some other potent issue. Something to think about on this holiday.



# Hopi Food Handler Cards

The Hopi Public Health Compliance Program (PHCP) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) Office of Environmental Health have ceased all onsite food handler training in Hopi villages and communities. Only the IHS online Food Handler training is available at: <http://www.ihs.gov/foodhandler>.

Once an individual takes the online training and passes the test, a certificate is sent to their email address. This email with the certificate attached can be forwarded to: [msahneyah@hopi.nsn.us](mailto:msahneyah@hopi.nsn.us). Previously the PHCP issued hard copy cards for those who successfully passed food handler training. However, with staff currently tele-

working, Hopi Food Handler cards will not be issued until normal services resume.

A temporary means of addressing Hopi Food Handler cards is in place. Upon receipt of an IHS Online Certificate, the PCP will issue a Hopi Food Handler card number as a memo until an official hard copy card can be printed. All requests for Hopi Food Handler card replacements are also included and addressed with a temporary memo.

Only requests made by email will be processed until further notice. Please include your mailing address with all requests. For questions, you may call (928) 497-1967.

## Picking Up the Pieces There is Life Beyond Loss

### Grief Support Group

**When:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month (Effective March 2

**Time:** 3-4pm

**Where:** Tele-Health Conference

**Sponsored by:** Hopi Tribe Behavioral Health Services

Using tele-health conference process we will further explore the cycles & tasks of grieving and unfold the many feelings we experience while grieving. Sometimes it helps to share feelings with others who understand. **YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN YOUR GRIEF.**

## Confirmation Hearing for Deb Haaland to be the Secretary of the Interior will be held on Tuesday, February 23, at 9:30am in Rm SD366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC

Members of the committee may participate in person or online. The committee will follow guidelines developed in consultation with the Office of the Attending Physician and the Senate Rules Committee to protect the health of members, staff, and the public. This includes

maintaining six-foot social distance spacing in the hearing room. Pursuant to this guidance, Senate office buildings are not open to the public other than official business visitors and credentialed press at this time. Accordingly, in-person visitors cannot be accommodated at

this hearing.

The hearing will be webcast live on the committee's website, and an archived video will be available shortly after the hearing is complete. Witness testimony will be available on the website at the start of the hearing.

# Symptoms of COVID?

# Think you've been exposed?

# Call the HHCC COVID-19 Hotline (928) 737-6188



If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or think you have been exposed, please call the Hopi Health Care Center COVID-19 Hotline at (928) 737-6188 for more information about drive-up testing