



FMCV Newsletter

First Mesa Consolidated Villages

Volume 1, No. 4
May 11, 2020

Hakintonmuya

This Month in Hopi History

- 5/16/1891– Hopis Arrested and sent to Ft. Wingate.
- 1907– Baacavi established.
- 1942– Stock Reduction began

THIS IS YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

If you would like to post news or information in the newsletter, send articles to the FMCV Office.

During this time of social distancing, we will publish your shout-outs: Birthdays, Congratulations, Condolences, etc.

Belated Happy Mothers Day to all Mothers

Local schools face challenges with internet connectivity during Distance E-Learning

During this coronavirus pandemic, schools across the globe have had to make substantial adjustments to their methods of teaching and delivery of education.

Local schools have switched to remote learning as a way of protecting students and to reduce the spread of the virus. The switch to internet-based learning; however came with challenges of slow connections, buffering and

being dropped from connections.

School technicians have been coordinating with local Internet Service Providers; Hopi Telecommunications, Inc and Cellular One, to make necessary adjustments to increase bandwidth and data connections.

As a local internet service provider, Cellular One issued Wi-Fi hotspots to students without access and optimized bandwidth/data

for on-line learning. Students with home internet through HTI already had access and were readily able to begin on-line classes. NAU also provided hotspots at three sites in First Mesa for k-college students.

With the increased number of students and employees working from home, on-line traffic was heavy and caused problems with connectivity.

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Hopi Health Care Center COVID-19 Update

As of May 8, the Hopi Health Care Center reported 65 patients had tested positive for covid-19. Of the 65 patients, 28 are Hopi tribal members.

Data is from HHCC only and does not include patients tested at Tuba City Regional Health Care or any other facility.

<i>Songoopavi</i>	9
<i>Yuwelu-pahki</i>	4
<i>Kykotsmovi</i>	4
<i>Orayvi</i>	4
<i>Supawlavi</i>	2
<i>Hotvela</i>	3
<i>Polacca, Walpi,</i>	
<i>Sitsomovi, Tewa</i>	4
<i>Musangnuvi</i>	
<i>Baacavi</i>	
<i>Upper Munqapi</i>	
<i>Lower Munqapi</i>	

In other related reports, Six deaths have been reported as corona virus related on the Hopi Reservation. The Hopi Emergency Response Team reported two deaths and Upper Village of Moenkopi Governor LeRoy Sumatzkuku reported four deaths.

See Related Story P2

National Police Week observed May 10-16

Hopi Communities Demand to Know When Someone Tests Positive In Their Respective Villages/Communities

As reported in the April 27 edition of the First Mesa Consolidated Villages *Newsletter*, there is an increased public outcry across the Hopi Reservation demanding community members be informed when someone in their respective community/village tests positive. They don't ask for names; all they ask is that they be notified when a community member tests positive.

In a recent letter from the Momngwit of the traditional Village of Songoopavi to Hopi Chairman Timothy Nuvangyaoma, the leaders expressed dismay that they were

not notified of the eight positive cases in their village.

The Momngwit stated, "Sadly, we were never notified by the Hopi Tribe, its Hopi Emergency Response Team (HERT), the Hopi Health Care Center (HCC) or any other emergency service provider(s), that our village, in fact, currently has eight (8) active COVID-19 cases, until it was reported at a meeting held yesterday by the HERT with *other* villages; and until it was posted by KUYI Radio on Facebook. This is absolutely an unacceptable practice, especially at this critical juncture of our history.

Lives of our people are at stake."

The momngwit request an in person meeting with the Chairman to provide a detailed explanation and validate the accuracy of the information.

As previously reported, FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney called Phoenix Area IHS Director Ty Reidhead on April 23 to inform him of the growing concerns of this same issue. The Indian Health Service has a responsibility to serve and protect the health and welfare of its service population, including providing information.

Technology from P1

With the increased use of internet services by businesses and employees working from home and on-line distant learning by schools, teachers and students; there has been several technical issues of slow connections and/or being dropped from connections.

At a recent meeting involving, school administrators, tribal leaders, HTI and Cellular One; several issues were raised along with the technical challenges encountered by schools.

Cellular one has been responsive to the issues and needs of those schools on a BIE system requiring upgrades. Cell One is also working with individual schools to address

their needs.

In the second edition of the FMCV *Newsletter*, Administrator Ivan Sidney said, "with the remoteness and limited infrastructure at Hopi, more bandwidth and upgrades are critical to meet the growing demand for on-line learning. NAU and NPC receive signal for Video and teleconference classes through a tower on Antelope Mesa. The system is in dire need of upgrades and Fiber Optics to provide fast, reliable and clear connection.

The FMCV leadership supports internet and on-line learning as the new norm of learning and approves use of its physical & natural resources on Antelope Mesa."

I have the
RIGHT to
KNOW

I CARE about my
Community

I WANT to know
what's happening
in my community

Village Security Officers Receive Basic Patrol Training

Security Guards monitor & help keep our communities safe



Federal Law Enforcement Officer Lt. Paul Sidney, conducted a Basic Patrol Training for FMCV and Kykotsmovi Village Security Officers on May 8.

Sidney reviewed step-by-step basic policies, procedures and techniques. Training included proto-

cols in reporting to and working with the local Hopi Tribe Police.

“Observation, observation” said Sidney, “as a good Security Officer, observation of your surroundings becomes a priority. You know longer look straight ahead, your

eyes become like a flashlight, looking all around.”

“Always refer to your Policies & Procedures and know what your General Orders allow you to do. Your Scope of Authority needs to be in black and white to serve as a Guide....Remember, the

mission is always bigger than you,” said Sidney.

Security Officers require the best training and most updated equipment to perform their jobs.

Upcoming trainings include: ICS and First Aid/CPR.

Cellular One Helps Rural Schools Connect Teachers to Students

By Cellular One Team

When school buildings were ordered to be closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year due to COVID-19, teachers and students across the Southwest needed data in order to complete the semester’s requirements over the internet. With more than 25 years of experience serving tribal communities, Cellular one was uniquely equipped with the mindset and creativity to provide solutions to connect teachers and students for online learning.

The Cellular One Team immediately jumped in, working around the

clock to develop, assemble and deliver a custom solution that would meet the needs of area schools. As a result, schools on the Hopi Reservation, Navajo Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribal land began rolling out Wi-Fi hotspots, loaded with mobile data, to teachers and students.

The mobile Wi-Fi hotspot devices provided by Cellular One allows multiple users in one location to be online simultaneously. The monthly mobile broadband service package has been thoughtfully designed to be optimal for online learning with

a generous data plan.

“During challenging times like these, it is more important than ever to be agile, get creative and proactively seek ways to help meet the needs of our communities. Fortunately, these qualities have always been part of our company mindset,” said Judd Hinkle, CEO of Cellular One. “When schools closed due to COVID-19, we were determined to help. More than ever we need to be there for one another, and our hardworking Team is proud to help connect teachers and students in our community.

Hopi Jr. Sr. High School Drive-In Graduation

The Hopi Jr. Sr. High School has announced plans for a "Safe" Drive-In Graduation Event on May 28, for the Graduating Class of 2020.

Graduates will drive-in to the football field and park their vehicles on the field. There is a limit of one vehicle per senior with immediate family, parent/guardian in the vehicle.

The Principal, Superintendent and

dignitaries will give brief speeches from the stage area. The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be called up to the stage individually to give their address. Graduates will also be called to the stage, one at a time, to receive their diplomas.

All safety protocols will be followed; including masks, gloves and sanitizing procedures. Participation and attendance will be limited, and a

"stay in your vehicle" procedure will be implemented. The event will be live streamed.

Graduation status of each students will be determined on May 18, once grades are posted. Seniors are encouraged to contact teachers and counselors.

**Congratulations
Class of 2020!**

Ponsi Hall supply distribution update

**By Judy Youvella
Outreach Worker**

The second distribution of much needed supplies and non-perishable food items was held on May 6 at the Ponsi Hall for all mesa residents of Tewa, Sichomovi and Walpi.

A total of 38 boxes was distributed to heads of households. Each box contained 6 bottles of hand sanitizers, rice, beans, snacks, hygiene kits, cleaning supplies and water.

First Mesa Baptist Church Pastor Lim and family prepared 80 sack lunches of cheeseburgers, French fries, a snack and Snapple drink. Sack lunches were included in the box pick up.

Residents were very happy to receive their boxes and expressed appreciations of "esquali," "kwa-kwai," "kuna-ah", "kunda" to the Lim family for providing the meal. They are, especially, grateful to First Mesa Village Administrator Ivan Sidney who organized the Outreach Program for mesa village residents.

Sidney said he wants to ensure people on the mesa are taken care of, as most do not have vehicles and are often overlooked.

"At this time, the Outreach Program is for Mesa Residents only," said Sidney. "Most village members are self-employed artisans who have been directly impacted by the pandemic with the closure of Tours."

Two village members volunteered their time to distribute and were required to wear masks and gloves.

Practicing social distancing, chairs were placed 6' apart and villagers wore face masks when they came to pick up boxes and lunches. The process was smooth.

The Emergency Needs Assessment on the mesa has been completed. There are 39 inhabited homes on the mesa, with a total resident population of 105.

First Mesa resident knows first hand the fears and severe flu like symptoms of coronavirus

"I can just picture all the people in the hospital fighting for their lives," said Lynnal Smiley, "It was so scary. I never thought I would see myself in there."

Lynnal was discharged from the Flagstaff Medical Center on April 29 and is doing well and in good spirits!

Our continued prayers and support are with you and your family Son. Keep the faith and as the Hopi hymn *Don't Stop Praying* goes:

*Nengem sutsep um tuingmani;
Sinmuy engem um tuingmani,
Kwaatsmuy engem um tuingmani.*

Council unable to convene due to technological challenges

Covid-19 has disrupted the livelihood of many people; including businesses, schools, organizations and government entities.

As such, the Hopi Tribal Council has not been able to convene a meeting to address important and priority issues of the Hopi Tribal government.

As reported in the April 6 edition of the FMCV Newsletter, First Mesa Council Representative Albert Siquah reported the Council was practicing *Social Distancing* with only one Representative from each village in physical attendance. All other Council Representatives attend the meeting via teleconference call.

Unfortunately, this system has not worked due to the lack of telephone technology. Upgrades to the communication system on Hopi is in dire need. Important governmental business matters, including the current health emergencies must be addressed.

In an April 17 letter to the Acting Tribal Council Secretary, and according to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Hopi Tribe, FMCV Rep.

Dale Siquah, authored a letter, endorsed by three other Council Representatives, requesting a Special Council Meeting to entertain:

1. Hopi Tribal Council's' Budget Modification to purchase teleconference capability;
2. List Hopi Tribal Council members as essential workers and grant access to tribal facilities (specifically, the Chamber in which council meetings are held);
3. Additional funding provided by congress for COVID-19 to Tribes, IHS, BIE, HTEDC and HTI.
4. Responsibilities of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Tribal Council and HERT;
5. Briefings to the Council by HERT, IHS CEO, Schools, Law Enforcement, Etc.
6. Create Hopi Tribal Council Agenda and schedule regular Hopi Tribal Council meetings.

Since calling for a special meeting, three failed attempts have been made to connect, due to the poor audio connection and static through

land line and mobile telephone. At each attempt, the Chairman of the tribal council had to call a recess and reschedule the meetings.

Important issues for the safety and well-being of the Hopi Community is at risk, if legislators can't meet. Pending items could, also, have unfavorable results if not addressed immediately.

It seems to be a situation that could have been easily remedied several weeks ago, with upgrades or purchase of new technology to make meetings possible, such as Zoom conferencing or Go To meeting conferencing.

The pandemic has placed everyone in a vulnerable state where it is almost mandatory that internet technology/WiFi, through fiber optics, be treated as a priority for communications, emergencies, health care, education, employment, etc.

Funding is available to Tribes through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, a part of the CARES Act, and Council must take the lead in pursuing use of the funding as it is very evident that the government was directly impacted by the deadly virus.

Hay available for Hopi Ranchers

Attention Hopi livestock owners needing hay.

The Hopi 3 Canyon Ranches has hay available starting May 11.

You will need to have tribal ID.

Contact the H3CR at 928-587-8550 for more information.

Extension of Hopi Tribal Government Shutdown

On May 4, Hopi Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma issued an extension of the Tribal government shutdown through May 29. The extension also directs tribal employees to continue working from home.

This will extend Nuvangyaoma's initial temporary shutdown issued on April 13.

"Although proactive actions have been taken to reduce the risk of

COVID-19, the pandemic continues to present a threat to the health, safety and well-being of Hopi Tribal Government employees and the general Hopi public," said Nuvangyaoma.

**National Police Week
May 10 – May 16**

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Thank a Police Officer today.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Donations Received at FMCV

The First Mesa Consolidated Villages Office received donations of hand sanitizers, protective face masks, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene kits, cases of water, a small supply of food items; including six 50lb sacks of beans and rice each, and eight 25lb sacks of flour.

As of May 4, All supplies have been divided and distributed among the communities of Yuwelu Pah'ki, Village of Tewa, Sichomovi, Village of Walpi and the Ponsi Hall. The flour will be divided among mesa residents.

FMCV will not distribute any supplies.

Please check with village offices on distribution schedules.

Food Gift Certificates for shopping at Keams Canyon Traders have been distributed among First Mesa Villages and Communities for elderly 65+. Funds for the elder gift certificates have been depleted. As donations are received, the FMCV office will notify village offices. You may contact FMCV at 928-737-2670 for information.

U.S. Department of the Treasury and Department of Interior Release 60% of \$8 billion to Tribes, under the Coronavirus Relief Fund, a part of the CARES Act

The U.S. Department of the Treasury and U.S. Department of Interior began releasing 60 percent of the \$8 billion to tribal nations on May 5 under the coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), a part of the CARES Act.

60 percent, or \$4.8 billion, will be distributed based on population data used in the distribution of the Indian Housing Block Grant based on U.S. Census figures. The amount for the Alaska Native Claims (ANC) Settlement Act will be held back pending litigation.

The remaining 40 percent of the \$8 billion, will be based on total number of persons employed by the tribes and any tribally-owned entity. Further data will be collected as related to the amount of higher expenses faced by the tribe's fight against COVID-19.

Payments based on employment and expenditure data will come later. The Treasury will confirm employment numbers with Tribes and seek additional information regarding higher expenses due to the

public health emergency crisis.

The deadline for disbursement of the full amount, was April 26; however, a lawsuit surrounding the inclusion of ANCs, delayed the process.

The Treasury Department has been criticized over its handling of the CRF and the delay of payments to tribes. The Treasury has ensured it will make quick disbursement of all the CRF money to tribal governments for their loss of revenue during the COVID-19 crisis.

President Donald J. Trump Visits Arizona and Proclaims May 5 as Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives Awareness Day

While in Arizona last week, U.S. President Donald J. Trump met with Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer and Gila River Governor Stephen Lewis regarding the impacts of the coronavirus in tribal communities (Second Lady Dottie Lizer also in attendance).

This was Trump's first trip out of Washington, DC since March.

During the meeting with the two leaders, President Trump proclaimed **May 5, 2020 as Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives Awareness Day**. On that same day, the federal government began **releasing \$4.8 billion in emergency aid to tribes** across the nation. Navajo Nation, which was hit hard by the pandemic,

will receive \$600 million and Gila River Indian Community will receive \$40 million. Both tribal leaders attended the meeting with Trump. It is not known if other AZ Tribal leaders were invited to the meeting.

Trump was in Phoenix to visit the Honeywell plant where N95 surgical respirator masks are being made for health care and

emergency workers. "Despite the factory's policy that requires all employees wear a mask at all times and several signs posted around the facility that read 'Please Wear Your Mask At All Times,' Trump did not wear a mask during the Honeywell Tour. The President did, however, wear safety goggles."

Vice Chairman Tenakhongva, FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney, FM Villager Leader Sam Tenakhongva & Crew cut logs donated to the Hopi Tribe for firewood



Missionaries Tael Lim, wife Eunhee, son Thomas Nahsonhoya Lim, Jacob Lim, Grace Lim provide sack lunches for village members



Volunteers assist Outreach Worker Judy Youvella

