



First Mesa Consolidated Villages Newsletter

Volume 1, No. 5
May 25, 2020

Hakintonmuya

This Month in Hopi History

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

**CONGRATULATIONS
KEAMS CANYON
ELEMENTARY
PROMOTING CLASS**

**CONGRATULATIONS
FIRST MESA
ELEMENTARY
PROMOTING CLASS**

**HOPI HIGH SCHOOL
Drive-Through
HONK & Celebrate
May 28, 5:30 pm
Attendance is limited**

**Memorial Day
May 25**

Keams Canyon Elementary School 6th Grade *Drive-In* Promotion Ceremony



Principal Gary Polacca gets ready to start Promotion Ceremony as vehicles are escorted in to staging area

On a warm, sunny morning, Keams Canyon Elementary School Principal Gary Polacca greeted and welcomed the 2020 KCES Promoting Class and their parents to the May 15,

6th Grade Drive-In Promotion Ceremony.

Due to the current pandemic, the school instituted a drive-in Promotion at the outside basketball court to

practice safe distancing. Security guards escorted vehicles into a designated area marked off at six feet apart. Everyone was required to remain in their vehicles. **Cont'd on P3**

First Mesa Elementary School *Drive-By* 6th Grade Promotion Ceremony

To honor the successful completion of the 6th Grade Promoting Class, the First Mesa Elementary School held an evening *Drive-by Ceremony* on May 15 to ensure the safety of everyone. 18 chairs decorated with balloons and posters, spaced at 6' apart, lined the sidewalks at FMES. Everyone wore protective face coverings. **Cont'd on P4**



Public Notice

The Indian Health Service (IHS) has scheduled **COVID-19 testing at the Hopi Health Care Center, Village by Village.**

**Polacca & Mishongnovi
Tuesday, May 26
9am-3pm**

**Keams Canyon & Shungopavi
Thursday, May 28
9am-3pm**

COVID-19 Update Report

As of May 20, the Hopi Health Care Center (HHCC) reported 80 positive cases of the coronavirus, of which 33 are Hopi community members. Data is from HHCC *only* and does not include patients tested at Tuba City Regional Health Care Center, Flagstaff Medical Center or any other facility.

First Mesa (Polacca,Walpi,Sitsomovi,Tewa)	6
Songoopavi	10
Hotvela	3
Kykotsmovi	4
Orayvi	4
Supawlavi	2
Yuwelu-pahki	4
Musangnuvi	
Baacavi	
Upper /Lower Munqapi	

It has been reported, that six deaths in the Hopi community have been caused by the coronavirus.

Community Members Test Positive for Coronavirus

FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney was informed on May 15 of two community members infected with the coronavirus.

Following protocol, Sidney immediately reached out to the couple and offered the assistance of FMCV.

The two were tested at the Hopi Health Care Center and were told to return home to self quarantine. Reportedly, the couple are feeling better and thanks everyone for their prayers.

They have put their faith and trust in God to overcome the virus and the Village Pastor (Reverend Taelim Lim) has prayerfully been in touch with the couple.

The traditional leadership of First Mesa Villages encourages everyone to take this virus seriously and take all safety precautions: Wear face coverings, wash and disinfect hands often, practice safe distancing and pray for yourself, your family and your community.

The coronavirus does not discriminate and has no boundaries—No one is immune to this virus. Currently there is still no vaccine for the virus.

It was also reported that an employee of the Hopi Cultural Center was exposed to a family member infected with the virus, causing the Cultural Center to close temporarily for cleaning and disinfecting.

As the world endures quarantines, closures and even panic during the coronavirus pandemic, God offers peace.

In Your Own Way,
Pray for Healing
Pray for Restoration
Pray for Order

KCES Promotion cont'd from P1 (photos courtesy of Velleda Sidney—not pictured Miekiya Wright)



Orren P. Begay



Katelyn J. Funk



Nieves F. Garcia



Kaylee F. George



Itzkoatl Hernandez



Seinna A. Humphrey



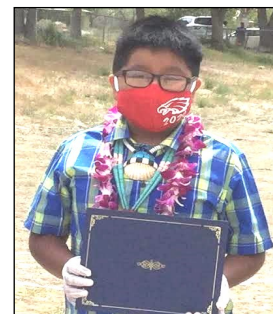
Caitlin R. Koinva



LeAnn Kooyaquaptewa



Dominic J. Leslie



Brent M. Naha

The Principal welcomed everyone saying, "I would give you all a big hug, but I can't, I'm just glad you're all here." He went on to say, "at the end of the year, we usually have a big affair to promote Students to Jr. High School, but this year is different."

Filled with emotion, Polacca encouraged Students to continue their education and said "today we will be departing from each other as you go on to Jr. High. We care about you and will wonder where and what you are doing. Remember we are your family, so come back to see us." He thanked the parents for being a part of the KCES family.

Erly Thomas, 6th grade teacher thanked everyone for supporting the *Drive-in Promotion* to celebrate student success and completion.

Thomas said "This is the best group of kids I've had for the past four years," to which students cheered and honked their horns. He told students not to forget their class motto "*Nothing works unless you work.*"

He talked about the challenges of on-line learning and said "staff, teachers, students and parents were all learning together and at times was frustrating. Students were motivated, but there was no access" (connection).

Roll was then taken and each student individually exited their vehicle when their name was called.

6th grade Teacher Assist. Velleda Sidney, also thanked students for their time with her in the classroom. Sidney said, "I care about each one of you and I hope I served you well. I learned a lot from you, you taught me well." She said she wasn't saying goodbye, but instead said "*ason nu' umumi piw yorikni.* I will see you again, have a good summer."

Recessional class song *See You Again* was played as decorated vehicles slowly paraded down main street to cheers of spectators and well-wishers.



Mason J. Perry



Muy-Tahla B. Poleahla



Drucilla O. Sanchez



Lowell M. Secakuyva



Suezet R. Silas



Colt S. Thomas

FMES Drive-by Promotion from P1



No one was allowed into the designated area, except students and staff. Immediate family was allowed into the parking lot, across the street, to take pictures of students.

There was no welcome address nor speeches by the staff or governing board. Earlier; however, students were issued their Certificates of Completion, promoting them on to Jr. High School.

To celebrate, a **drive-by parade** of family members and invited guests drove slowly past the Students, honking, shooting out confetti and congratulating them on their accomplishments and Promotion.

The parade was long and festive with approximately 35 decorated vehicles in tow. The parade was led and escorted by First Mesa Consolidated Villages Security Officers.

FMES 6TH GRADE CLASS OF 2020

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Aguilera, Antonio | Cleveland, Ty |
| Collateta, Chrissy | Dennis, Navasta |
| Dewangyumtewa, Tyrell | Gishie, Maliya |
| Honwikvaya, Melelani | Huma, Kyleigh |
| Huma, Lomawisiwma | Huma Tyler |
| Lomayestewa, Kallee | Maho, Suyma |
| Means, Alana | Pawesiema, James |
| Quochytewa, Honmana | Silas Mikekel |
| Timms, Valencia | Student |



Junior High 8th Grade Promotion Postponed until later date

The Hopi Jr. High School announced it will postpone the 8th Grade Promotion until a later date. This is different from the traditional celebration held at the end of each school year. Changes are quickly developing and scheduled school plans have been disrupted.

The Administration is considering a Promotion Ceremony either in late summer or in the Fall when students return to school.

“A decision like this is not made lightly and we have consulted with the Governing Board and Tribal and Health officials,” said Acting Superintendent and Jr High School Principal Alban Naha.

The school has tentative plans for Distant Learning Summer School classes, in July, for those who did not pass core classes. This may be an opportunity for those students who need to make up credits.

CONGRATULATIONS Class of 2020

**College Graduates
High School Graduates**

8th & 6th Grade Promotees

**We are proud of you and wish
you all the best in your
Academic endeavors**

Congratulations
Summer Johnson

Greyhills Knights
Class of 2020

Hopi High School Drive-Through “HONK and Celebrate” Graduation Event

May 28

5:30-7:30pm

The Hopi High School has announced Major Changes in the Graduation Event for Seniors.

The Drive-In Graduation for May 28th has been **changed to a Drive-Through event**. A formal graduation will be scheduled at a later date. During this time, it has been determined a formal graduation poses a high risk to the community. A Drive-Thru event is a safer alternative.

PROCESS

- ◇ **Attendance is limited to: Student and two guests (parent/ guardian) in one vehicle.**
- ◇ Everyone in the vehicle must wear a protective mask
- ◇ Vehicle Line-up will begin at 5:30pm
- ◇ Vehicles will be directed through event
- ◇ HHS graduates will receive their diploma, sashes, etc. and be recognized for individual achievements
- ◇ A stay-in-your-vehicle requirement will remain throughout the event.
- ◇ The event will be live streamed and pictures taken.
- ◇ Music will be played to keep the event lively and honking horn will be allowed to celebrate how proud we are of our Seniors!

**Hopi High School Bruins
Class of 2020**

Outreach Services To Villagers On The Mesa At Tewa, Sichomovi and Walpi

May 21 ended Judy Youvella's volunteer work as Outreach Coordinator for the villages of Walpi, Sichomovi and Tewa on the mesa, after she was informed that Tribal employees will report back to work in June.

As a resident of the Sichomovi Village herself, Youvella has first hand knowledge of some of the challenges the mesa residents face.

At the onset of her work, Youvella conducted an emergency needs assessment of all residents on the mesa and found that one of the major impacts during this pandemic, was the loss of income. After all tours were cancelled, self-employed artisans who depend on arts & crafts sales as their primary source of income, stopped abruptly. The market for self-employed artisans is questionable; and craftsmen do not qualify for unemployment compensation.

Another circumstance is that some traditional homes do not have indoor plumbing and residents cannot wash hands as frequently as has been recommended by the CDC and health officials. Their supply of water in the home is limited and they use it sparingly.

A couple homes do not have electric or gas stove appliances and use traditional wood stoves for cooking, and heating. With travel restrictions, lack of wood sales and no income to purchase wood, these homes were negatively impacted.

The other factor is that most residents do not have reliable transportation to get them to the Village Administration offices where emergency cleaning, food and other supplies are distributed. The St. Mary's food bank provides food boxes to the Village administration offices at least twice a month. Those without transportation are at a disadvantage to get the much needed supplies.

Through the generous donations of a couple organizations and individuals, Youvella was able to open the Ponsi Hall on the mesa where she had a limited supply of emergency items that she distributed to villagers once a week. They did not have to travel anywhere, they walked to the Ponsi Hall to pick up their small supply.

The Village Pastor of the First Mesa Baptist Church and his family, also provided meals once a week to the mesa villagers.

Services to the residents on the

Mesa was FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney's priority. "People on the mesa are usually left out and we need to make sure we reach out to them so they are not left out," said Sidney.

Sidney also had Wi-Fi installed at Ponsi Hall for school kids who reside on the mesa. He is grateful to Youvella for her services as volunteer outreach coordinator.

During this Project, several individuals from the three villages came together and expressed the need to unify as a group to advocate for themselves, putting all differences aside. They worked together voluntarily, with mutual dependence and felt united as they practiced reciprocity; a concept of "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours."

For information about the Mesa outreach project, contact FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney.

"Sometimes you're going to have more work, you're going to hit rocks, you're going to have a steep, uphill climb. For many, this pandemic has been that uphill climb"

Shutdown of Tribal Operations to End May 29 Employees Will Soon Return Back to Work

Hopi Tribal Council Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma issued a Memorandum extending the Tribal government shutdown through May 29. The Memo also directed employees to *continue working* from home. It is important to know that the Hopi constituency will

now start receiving the essential services, much needed during the emergency. When the Order to shut down the workplace was issued, and employees were told to work from home..., services abruptly stopped.

How Does The Hopi Tribe Plan To Use Funding Provided through CARES Act

The Federal Government approved \$2 trillion funding, through the approval of P.L. 116-136, on March 27, for economic relief aid known as the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act).

The CARES Act provides over \$10 billion for tribal nations. The bill authorized:

- \$8 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)**
- \$1.032 billion Indian Health Service -IHS**
- \$153.8 million Education Stabilization fund**
- \$522 million to Bureau of Ind Affairs**
 - \$453 million BIA Office of Indian Programs
 - \$69 million Bureau of Ind Education BIE
- \$300 million HUD Native American Progs**
 - \$2,016,465 million. (Hopi Tribe eligible for, based on population statistics.
- \$100 million Agriculture-**
 - Food distribution programs on Indian reservations

On May 5, the U.S. Department of the Treasury began releasing \$4.8 billion of funds to tribal governments based on population data used in the distribution of the Indian Housing Block Grant based on US Census figures.

The rest will be released at a later date, based on the total number of persons employed by the tribe and any tribally-owned entity. More data will be collected on the amount of higher expenses incurred by the tribe in its fight against the coronavirus.

Payments based on employment and expenditure data will come later. The Treasury will confirm employment numbers with Tribes in addition to higher expenses incurred due to the health emergency crisis.

During the fight against COVID-19, tribal governments, organizations, entities, villages, etc., incurred high unexpected costs, not budgeted for. Expenditures may or may not be reimbursable; thus, it is imperative all COVID-19 related costs be documented and recorded separately. Awarding agencies should also be contacted for clarity on what are acceptable and allowable costs. Any use of COVID-19 funds will be audited and expenditure reports will be required. It is important that all COVID-19 activity be documented religiously and application and reporting deadlines adhered to. Any use of COVID-19 funds will audited. NOTE: CRF funds are a one-time funding and will not carry forward.

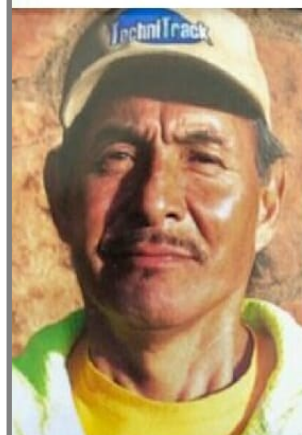
Although Tribal governments and entities have incurred considerably high costs on emergency needs not budgeted for, the release of emergency aid funds from the Federal Government has left everyone scrambling to prepare proposals and budgets on how to spend the money.

How does the Hopi Tribal Council plan to spend the federal funding, or what projects have been earmarked as priority? Community members have not been contacted for their input; although, they are included in the population count to receive the funding.

It is evident that the coronavirus has placed us in a state of crisis where there are needs in every community for village improvement, health/medical related issues, education, technology, communications, water, security, economic development, jobs, rebuilding, social and mental health; and the list goes on.

Tribes already receive annual federal funding through Discretionary Grants and Entitlement Programs and often times, do not spend all funds by year's end.

Charles Ray Navasie



**Keams Canyon AZ
Hopi Reservation**

Missing 2-4-20

**Age 54
Brown Hair - Brown Eyes
5' 5" to 5' 6" Tall
137 lbs**

**Enrolled Hopi Tribe of Arizona
Last seen by relatives near his residence
If seen, or you know where Charles is,
please call BIA Hopi Agency
(928) 738-2235 Case# B0 2001 6765**

NamUs# MP 68375

(5-14-20)

Villagers Face Food Insecurities As Prices of Groceries Skyrocket

The prices of grocery; especially meat, has skyrocketed since March and choices on the shelves and in meat cases are fewer.

Markets and grocers have placed limits on beef, pork, poultry and egg purchases; and, limits continue on how much toilet paper, cleaning supplies and disinfectant a person can purchase. Produce and canned food products have not been limited; however, the supply is also low.

Meat processing plants and farmers have been hit hard by the coronavirus and several workers have been infected with the coro-

navirus; forcing plants to close temporarily.

The food shortage and the steep hike in prices has placed a food emergency among the Hopi communities and several individuals are now asking for emergency food supplies and food gift certificates.

The FMCV office has distributed the few food donations received, as well as the food Gift Certificates to Tewa, Walpi and Sichomovi villages and Communities, and **Does Not** have any Food supplies on hand. However, as food donations are received, the FMCV will dis-

tribute to the local village administration offices.

The FMCV office encourages residents and community members to check on the Food Distribution Schedule with the Walpi, Tewa and Sichomovi offices. St. Mary's delivers food boxes, at least, twice a month and the offices have developed a system to distribute the food boxes.

The Navajo Hopi Covid-19 Relief fund has also been assisting Navajo and Hopi members with emergency food supplies. Contact number to Navajo-Hopi Covid-19 Relief Fund: 1-833-956-1554.

Book Reading Club for Avid Readers

By: Daniel Lim
Junior, Dartmouth College

This is a message for all middle and high school students at Hopi.

A few of my friends and I are launching a book reading program called the Tutuveni Project that will be running for the summer.

The Project will run like this:

1. Something to do during the quarantine and the summer vacation.
2. Those wanting to pursue a higher education: Reading and writing skills are going to be important and we want to help you get better.
3. Introduce you to successful college students who can provide you with mentorship and support for your future career.

If you are interested in doing this, I highly recommend you join our Project. You will have an amazing time.

1. Apply at: <https://forms.gle/Mz7cMfrYtWy8dydy5>
2. Get matched with a College student group leader.
3. Decide on which books to read.
4. Receive a Free book from us.
5. Group leaders will supervise your Group and occasionally assign you homework.
6. And finally, you read!

Please complete and submit application no later than the end of May. If you have any questions or need assistance, call me at (928) 221-9550. Daniel Lim