



2021 a Year of Transformation

The Village Crier

January 11, 2021 Volume 2 Issue No. 1

Tömö Paa Muyaw, the Moon of Positive Hopi Life

First Mesa Approved Community Cemetery Site



Cemetery Site Facing Badger Butte from First Mesa



Cemetery Site Facing First Mesa Villages

By Ivan Sidney
First Mesa Consolidated Villages Administrator

This Notice is to inform all residents of First Mesa that our Public Cemetery has reached its full capacity and there is currently limited space with restrictions now in place.

With the ongoing COVID19 issues, this has now become a critical issue to resolve. To date, we have not had contact with the Indian Health Services and the Hopi Tribal Administration to assist with the proper burial procedures and especially information relating to the potential future health issues of patients and

victims who have succumbed to the virus.

Residents have voiced concerns of burials too close to their property. Burials are also in near proximity of the water line which serves the Mesa residents.

Our Religious Leaders, throughout the years have often talked about the need for a new cemetery. Our present cemetery has served its purpose, and the land area is quickly becoming inadequate. Our Hopi belief teaches us to refrain from talking about death and only look forward

toward a prolonged life. However, we have also been told that life and death go hand in hand.

Our Hopi Religion and culture also teaches us about the next life after death. Therefore, at time of death, we prepare a home (grave) for the body and allow for the spirit to journey to the next world. Included in the final preparation, up to the fourth day, are certain rituals and other obligations after which the spirit is on its final journey. Foremost is Hopi respect for human life. It is this practice and re-

spect for these rituals that has prolonged our leaders from actively pursuing a new cemetery.

Sadly, the COVID 19 related deaths took a toll on our village and raised concern from residents relating to potential risks from the virus. We received recommendations by written bulletins but no direct contact from the Hopi Tribe to allow for questions, especially on procedures to follow. Concerns included the health safety of individuals conducting the burials. We were informed that our village commu-

nity services offices may have been provided backhoe tractors to assist with grave preparation.

Records on file show discussions by past Traditional Leaders and documents of the approved new community cemetery location. The new site is located on the old Keams Canyon, Winslow road between the area called five houses and the Keams Canyon wash. We are now scheduling the land area to be prepared for use. We will have an area for village/community members and a special area

for our Veterans. It would be ideal to immediately construct a fence around the location, but our challenge is always the lack of funds. Our office has not received village allocations from the Hopi Tribal Council for over twenty years to serve our community needs. Our leaders will assist in finding the funds necessary to accomplish the community cemetery during this time of need.

Any questions or suggestions, may be directed to our office by calling 928-737-2670.

Polacca Water and Sewer Services

Water Department
First Mesa Consolidated Villages

Due to the Stay-At-Home Orders imposed during the Coronavirus Pandemic, the use of water and sewer services has increased. The west water tank must be filled and chlorinated almost 24/7.

Our water system is 20 years old and should be scheduled for replacement. Any breakage of critical equipment, oc-

curing at any time, will result in no water and require additional funds.

The cold temperatures are causing water breaks and sewer back ups.

In the last two issues of the Village Crier, we published recommendations of procedures to minimize freezing

water pipes (see *Tips* on P4).

It has, also, been found that the recent, frequent, sewer clogs have been caused by disposable wipes, paper towels, etc.

Everyone is encouraged to conserve water during these critical times. Hauling bulk loads of water from residential water faucets for live-

stock, is Not Allowed.

We ask community members to report any misuse of water.

At this time, we cannot support any new water hookups and will police our community and villages for violations, to prevent unnecessary disruptions to our water services. If you have any questions, call 928-737-2670



Concerned village member reported a rancher hauling water to livestock. Hauling water for livestock is Prohibited

Hopi Tribe in need of a Detox Facility and Long Term Treatment Facility

By Ivan Sidney

First Mesa Consolidated Villages Administrator

Among our Native American history is the illegal introduction of liquor. Federal Laws were enacted to prevent the sale of liquor on Indian Reservations and to protect tribes from the use of liquor for trading for Indian goods. Today, most reservations legalized the sale of liquor, but the Hopi Tribal criminal code includes possession of liquor and intoxication as a criminal offense. The United States years ago decriminalized intoxication as a criminal offense and considered intoxication to be a treatable disease.

The Hopi Tribe has experienced the use of liquor on our reservation and has had devastating threats, particularly to our religious ceremonies. Intoxication is, also, the cause of family problems and serious criminal violations in our villages. However, the sale of liquor was always available at nearby townships and especially for sale in our villages by bootleggers. Liquor was also used to purchase sacred religious items.

Our first jail at Keams Canyon was an old school building renovated to detain inmates. Our recent detention center in Polacca opened in 1989 and recently closed due to improper maintenance by the BIA Facilities Management. Both facilities served mostly to place intoxicated persons in a safe place for detoxification. This resulted in statistics of 80% to 90% who were detained for conviction of intoxication.

In the meantime, illegal drugs began to appear on the reservation. The use of drugs caused serious medical problems and are blamed for the acts of serious crimes in our villages. Reports indicate that possibly a drug called meth is being manufactured on our reservation. Certain homes and individuals have been identified as selling the drugs. Today, drugs are out of control in our country mainly for financial profit by traffickers. Although the use of drugs is also a treatable disease, its treatment is attainable but will cause lasting damage to the human body.

The Hopi Tribal Resource Enforcement Officials (Rangers) campaigned with the special interest groups to gain support of the Hopi Tribal Council to contract the BIA Police to provide better services. A strategic plan was developed by Chief Ranger Virgil Pinto, which is available, documenting the plans for improvement.

The Hopi Tribal Council approved the PL93-638 contract with the BIA and as a result, today we have the Hopi Tribal Police. The BIA did not hesitate to contract the Law Enforcement, since the program is costly and the need for more officers and a detention center is a continuing challenge.

So, the question to village and community members: "is Law Enforcement Services better today with Hopi Tribal Police?" The lack of a detention center has intoxicated individuals from (alcohol and drugs) roaming our villages. There is no indication that liquor bootleggers and drug dealers are being arrested and convicted. In fact, the illegal sale of liquor and drugs has increased since COVID 19. These serious violations remain under federal law, but our Tribal Police are not federally commissioned to enforce federal laws. The BIA Police budget was never adequate for years and yet, the tribe approved the contract. The Hopi People are the true victims of the 93-638 contract. The final vote of the Tribal Council was a tie and the Chairman voted in favor which approved the contract.

Prior to and after COVID-19, alcohol and drug related crimes were escalating in our villages. Persons have been murdered in our village by individuals suspected of being involved in drugs. Village members have reported individuals walking around all

hours of the night and Gunshots are being reported in the villages. Mothers and grandmothers live in fear and are victims of assaults. Each time, the Tribal Police have been called, but response time is inadequate or there is no response at all.

Our Traditional Leaders were summoned for assistance by the people and an invitation was extended to the Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety, which resulted in no response. Instead, a letter was received from the Tribal Police threatening the possible arrest of Security Officers due to not having arrest authority. Immediately, our Security Officers Program had been converted to a Village Public Safety Program, delegating the Village Officers with religious governmental authority. **The objective was to neutralize incidents and to promote traditional responsibility with use of traditional authority.**

At a meeting of our Traditional Leaders, they themselves told us that "all people are their children." They must hold true to these responsibilities and expend our limited funds to provide assistance to our village people.

Included in the discussion at the Traditional Leaders meeting, was a reminder that alcoholism and drug addiction are treatable. The victims are our close relatives and in need of help. **Jail is not the answer,** a detoxification facility and long-term treatment center is the answer.

Although we have experienced years with these problems and several years of federal funding has been allocated for treatment programs, we must now ask, where is our Treatment Center today? The answer for too long, for those who want and need recovery, is placing them in distant cities. Without these facilities and no arrests by Tribal Police, due to lack of an adequate detention center, our people remain walking around in our village and becoming the victims of the virus. What is the answer? FUNDING.

The CARES Act Federal funding could have purchased detox and treatment facilities to address our problem and especially, to help those in immediate need. Instead, the Tribal Administration is spending these funds for its own development of TawaOvi. Our leaders directed me to notify the Hopi Tribe that land with infrastructure was available at First Mesa. This would have allowed these special centers to help those in need of treatment and recovery and allow our Health Care Center to focus on the treatment of COVID 19.

Our Leaders have asked to renovate some of our village facilities to provide for a detoxification center, but we lacked the funds. First Mesa Consolidated Villages remains unrecognized as a village by the Tribal Administration and as a result only received \$44,000 from the CARES Act funding.

On May 7, 1999, the Director of the Hopi Health Department issued a memorandum announcing a meeting to discuss the future use of the Keams Canyon Hospital building with IHS moving to the new Hopi Health Care Center.

First Mesa Consolidated Villages submitted a letter to Mr. Don Davis, Phoenix Indian Health Director and a copy to Chairman Wayne Taylor on November 24, 1999 requesting the transfer of the building to First Mesa. The original facility was constructed in 1961 and renovated in 1997 and was still in operable condition.



Treatment facility needed on Hopi

FMCV had been discussing and negotiating with the Flagstaff Medical Center and Ganado Sage Memorial Hospital to operate a Treatment Center for Alcohol along with an Elderly Nursing Home. No response was received from the Hopi Tribe and the facility was demolished. Our Leaders suspected that the tribe disregarded our request due to the fact that the next occupant lease must have First Mesa's approval being located on our land.

Our two Village Public Safety Officers who encounter individuals in our village, have reported that all individuals deserve respectful treatment and most are good individuals. Our people addicted to alcohol and drugs are in need of help and some are begging for help. The families of these victims are also concerned for the lack of services and help. Especially mothers who only see their children's life fading.

It is obvious the tribe's priority is elsewhere. We must look to ourselves for the remedy. We can start by working together through understandable and respectful communications. We must be willing to forgive, accept that alcohol and drugs is an illness, and have faith in our creator. The Leaders acceptance of us all, as their children, is a start.

In closing, our Leaders recognized the opening of our high school, here at home, which allows our children to be more active and seriously participate in our religious ceremonies. The Kiva Chiefs also, recognized more sober individuals attending the kivas. Young people are now learning our songs, our language, becoming drummers, lead singers and asking questions and eager to learn. This was one of the purposes of having our own high school.

The invasion of COVID 19 disallowed large gatherings and thereby disrupted our annual ceremonies. As a result, today we see more abuse of liquor and alcohol. However, there is hope by our

Traditional Leadership's acceptance of responsibilities and our commitment to embrace each other. We must hold true to our instructions and teachings, as parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, that our children are truly our future.

**23.5 MILLION AMERICANS
ARE IN NEED OF
REHABILITATION TREATMENT
FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE.**
-SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

First Mesa Tribal Council Representative's Reports

By Wallace Youvella, Jr.

First Mesa Tribal Council Representative

The funding agency for the Hopi Route 10 Construction Project has accepted the Public Meetings held in 2019, as satisfying the *requirement for public meetings prior to construction*.

This decision is due to the ongoing pandemic and the constraints to hold in-person public meetings.

The Scoping Stage of this road project has been completed and we will proceed to the next stage. This will allow construction to begin soon and hopefully on schedule.

Thank you for your continued patience. Once again, please be safe and take precautions while going about your daily duties.

By AT Sinquah

First Mesa Tribal Council Representa-

We have begun a new year in our Hopi calendar. I thank the momgwit for considering our health and performing their duties for us all. Kwa, kwai.

The Hopi School Staff have begun receiving COVID vaccinations; provided the Principals submit a list of their employees.

The Tribal Council has

cancelled all meetings until January 25.

The Hopi School Staff have begun receiving COVID vaccinations; provided the Principals submit a list of their employees.

I continue to encourage all to follow the Covid guidelines. This is for our individual and Village safety. We still have a ways to go with this coronavirus pandemic.

Report By Dale Sinquah

First Mesa Tribal Council Representative

Land Commission Report 11/19/20 Meeting

The Land Commission held a meeting on Nov 19, 2020. A quorum was present to proceed with the meeting:

Secretary Nutumya announced she emailed correspondence to Commissioners for consideration to add to the agenda. Chairman Andrews requested Nutumya read the correspondence into record.

a. 11/12/20: Complaint Email w/ exhibits. The correspondence was an email complaint from Chris Mansfield addressed to: Clayton Honyumtewa and cc'd to Priscilla Pavatea, Rosa Honani and Virgil J. Pinto.

b. 11/17/20 – Additional Complaint letter from Chris Mansfield w/exhibits. Addressed to same

c. 11/12/20 – Email Re Application for 23-121222 for solar farm

d. 11/12/20 Press Release RE CHACO Heritage Tribal Association

Chmn Andrews requested complaint letters be included in the Agenda under "New Business." Commissioners agreed, Agenda approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. FOIA concerning ConnectGen Company's proposal for a wind farm in Springerville area was presented by Kendrick Lomayestewa and Clayton Honyumtewa.

Lomayestewa said the Proposal was sent to the Tribe by the State requesting additional information; no additional information provided. He said ConnectGen proposed the project thru the State Land Commission. Lomayestewa asked Clayton Honyumtewa if he had received a proposal which the Hopi Land Commission could review.

Honyumtewa said he was informed ConnectGen submitted application to the State Land Commission, but the Hopi Tribe was not contacted, nor was an application received. Honyumtewa, however, said he later spoke with Patrick Browning, Manager of the Hopi Ranches who informed him an application was sent to the Hopi Ranches and Browning had reviewed the application. He said the proposal requests 72,000 acres of State lands which includes Hopi's entire State Land Use at the bottom. It includes three highways going into Springerville, road to the prison, then back to Highway 260 the road going to Honda. On a map it shows five MET towers being emplaced. Honyumtewa said this is the

only information received by the Hopi Ranch and more information is needed from the Company and the State.

OGC reported there are two FOIA requests. Mignela sent information received from the State via email to Honyumtewa and Lomayestewa. She asked if either one of them received the email from the State Attorney's Office dated October 30, 2020. Honyumtewa responded "No." Lomayestewa did not respond. The email will be resent.

LC Chairman stated he received an application titled SLUP Product Final Application. He asked if this is the application being referred to.

b. Hopi Tribe Economic Development Corporation—New Hopi Hotel Report by Cindy Smith

Smith reported on the new *Hotel Project* in parcel two. Parcel two is Hopi Trust lands, located north of the Three Canyon Ranch office, at Twin Arrows Casino Exit 219, east of Navajo travel plaza.

The project is in preliminary preconstruction and looking at infrastructure locations. She stated preliminary plans are done and Groundbreaking at the hotel is scheduled for latter part of March or first of April. HTEDC is looking for a joint agreement with Navajo to share a fire station and police dept. Fire is a concern due to response time for fire services. Smith spoke with Carrol Onsaie to approach US Bureau of Reclamation to request a well to be drilled for the project. She has not heard from Onsaie.

HTEDC is also planning a restaurant at the hotel site to feature Hopi food and plans to employ Hopi members. The hotel will be first. Once up and running a restaurant will be explored.

Smith said they would also like to have a tobacco shop. Tobacco products will be sold at a lower cost due to being on trust lands. She said the Navajo travel plaza, across the street, is built on fee land, not trust land; therefore, charge state and federal taxes.

Smith said lack of infrastructure in the area is costly to build. She asked if the Hopi Tribe has avenues for assistance with infrastructure which will help in future projects. She said HTEDC will take care of infrastructure in parcel two and will own and operate the hotel. The hotel will feature Hopi artist and reach out to local Hopi artisans next year.

"HTEDC is excited about the project,"

said Smith. "Once completed it will benefit the Tribe."

Smith talked about billboard rentals which may later be a revenue source. The state regulates billboards on state land and should Hopi place billboards on Trust Land along I-40, Hopi can advertise the Hotel and rent out and manage what goes on the billboards. HTEDC is planning on incorporating their three hotels as a tourism package in the future.

Dale Sinquah FMVC representative asked what preliminary work needs to be done and if worthwhile to put a smoke shop. Smith said a tax code needs to be approved so HTEDC can take advantage of cigarette and tobacco product sales and provide revenue for the Tribe. A tax code will allow for no tax on cigarettes. Arizona charges \$2 per pack. "Current federal cigarette and tobacco tax rate is \$1.01/20-pack" said Sinquah.

Darren Talayumtewa Director of Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program stated access for villages and communities gathering wood from parcel two for elderly members may be a concern and requested he be kept informed so wood harvest of the area can be maximized.

Andrews said harvest in the area belongs to wood lands and WEMP and they must authorize and inform the correct people. He also addressed billboards and said billboards were considered several times in the past and recommended hiring a company to build and Hopi would own and maintain. Honyumtewa said in the past, Twin Arrows had requested four billboard sites; which had already been identified and surveyed. Smith said she is aware that four sites were designated prior to her joining HTEDC; however, is unaware of the locations.

Chairman Nuvangyaoma asked for clarification of sites. He said the HTEDC Board was hesitant to act without knowing how it would impact the development area. Smith recalled a company named was interested but wanted total control over billboards without Hopi input. Billboards will be addressed at a later date.

b. Letter from Chris Maxwell- Andrews said he included these complaint letters but unsure if the Land Commission has jurisdiction. He said HRES is looking into the complaint and is a sensitive issue between two individuals. Priscilla Pavatea said the investigation is ongoing and does not feel this should be discussed by Commission. The Commissioners were in con-

sensus to leave the issue with HRES. Letter was read into record because it was addressed to Land Commission.

Another letter from Luther Nutumya was brought up. Pavatea reported her office already made contact with Nutumya on Nov. 8 and technicians were meeting with him on Nov. 9 to see where fence was cut. Techs have material to mend the fence.

OLD BUSINESS: a. Update Report: Hopi land values in Cibola by GC Fred Lomayesva

Travis Hyer said Lomayesva contacted Atty Thayne Lowe on the land value of the 10.7 acres at Cibola. The land is not leased or farmed and no water rights assessed to it. Full cash value has been assessed at \$17,172.00. The 2017 land value, without water, was appraised at about \$18.75/acre, total about \$20,000.

b. Update Report: Request from Cibola Dirt Works for gravel by Fred Lomayesva and Clayton Honyumtewa

GC Lomayesva contacted Atty. Lowe; however, OGC needs to do more research to give an opinion. Honyumtewa said he spoke with Hussy who remains interested in the gravel site and waiting on a decision by the Tribe. He said gravel was removed from the site in the past by others; but he has not taken any gravel, only if the Tribe gives their approval. Honyumtewa informed Hussy a letter is forthcoming from the Hopi Tribe. In a previous meeting it was decided a Cease and Desist letter would come from the Chairman.

Micah Loma'omvaya from Realty was asked if he was included in the research. He said he wasn't involved, since to his understanding, private deeded lands fall under Department of Natural Resources and the Tribe's lawyers. Andrews asked how it can be made a part of Realty's responsibility? Loma'omvaya said it is a funding issue. Realty operates on funds which specifically pays for BIA or trust land realty transactions. The scope of work does not identify deeded tribal lands. He said funds would need to be identified with a detailed scope of work. Deeded lands must adhere to County codes, zoning, and permitting. The tribe is limited on what can be done on deeded land. Loma'Omavaya said Realty will need additional \$25-50,000 and a State Realtor's license, notary public; program for differ data; funds for taxes, insurance, filing fees, etc. This would be best in a revolving account.

Cont'd on P4

Continued from P3—Dale Siquah Report

Honyumtewa said the Land Commission approved gravel excavation in the past for Moenkopi. Permits were done and sent to realty during which the Tribe lost out on \$30,000. The permits were signed by the Chairman and the Company and didn't get anything back from Realty.

Honyumtewa said the Tribe provided funding to Realty in 2004-2008 during the ReOrganization and was placed under DNR for about four years, but did not work. He said Realty was given seed money, but when things didn't work out, they stopped funding. Andrews asked about the loss from gravel at Moenkopi. Loma'omvaya said there is overlapping jurisdiction of land and there is a resolution which gives that area of land to the Upper Village of Moenkopi and they would issue permits and receive income from the land.

There is varying information and opinion on the jurisdictional issue and Resolution. Andrews said all parties need to communicate and get problem corrected; including: Realty, DNR, Village of Upper Moenkopi, Land Commission, and Office of General Counsel

c. Update on NTUA ROW's (Right Of Way) Moenkopi area by Micah Loma'omvaya and Fred Lomayesva

Hyer from OGC said they talked Realty who is waiting on information from NTUA.

Loma'omvaya said NUTA submitted their business license and documents and realty is drafting up a resolution with the Right Of Way documents. In lieu of monetary compensation, NTUA agreed to provide services to Upper and Lower Moenkopi; including businesses thru the fiber optic line.

d. Update on HPL Land use Request from Hopi members - Fred Lomayesva, OGC

Hyer reported Lomayesva is still doing the research, requested by the Land Commission.

Honyumtewa said the areas of concern is Teesto, Whitecone, and Dilkon. Navajo Land Department is working with families to move them further away from nesting sites. Families have requested NTUA services however have not been provided. Hopi monitors the area. Andrews reported Navajo Attorney is looking into the issue. He will write a letter to Tim McDonald on status.

e. Status update on Land Settlement Account Balances - Craig Andrews/Clayton Honyumtewa

No update from the Tribal Treasurer. Honyumtewa feels

information can't be located. It was suggested a letter from Chairman and LC Chairman be written requesting the information. Andrews suggested the letter come from the OGC's office requesting Land Settlement Account Balances. It was suggested the Treasurer be placed on the next agenda for a report. The LC has been requesting this information for at least two years, with no satisfactory answer. Leroy Shingoitewa and the Investment Committee tried to explain to Council but they were not satisfied with the explanation. Siquah said a forensic audit should be done.

REPORTS:

a. Virgil Pinto, Chief of HLES

Sergeant Mahkewa reported for Chief Pinto: HLES is working under the Stay-at-Home Order factors. Villages have been responding to the Order issued by the Chairman; however, nothing changes on HLES's mission to provide services to the Villages. HLES has had several COVID positives of the Officers and among dispatchers impacting their services. They have limited officers and dispatchers. This has delayed response times and services. HLES anticipates a second wave and officers along with all first responders will be exposed due to the Nature of their work.

Four Range Technicians positions are available and Human Resources is reviewing application to fill the positions within two weeks. HLES will cease livestock inspections for now.

The "no large gathering" provision in the Stay At Home Order is nearly impossible to enforce. HLES hopes people will adhere to orders. He expressed his confidence in wearing of face masks, hand washing and distancing.

Nuvangyaoma said General Counsel was tasked with providing orientation on COVID19 and the stay-at-home orders.

Mahkewa said HLES hasn't been successful in getting information from Indian Health Services (IHS) when responding to calls. IHS cites the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1966 (HIPAA) as to why they cannot provide the information on positive individuals and homes with COVID. As of today, they do not know who is positive which endangers officer's health. Officers decontaminate vehicle after every transport which takes additional time. Odds of getting infected increases each time with direct contact.

Chairman Nuvangyaoma said IHS is delegated to oversee the

distribution of the vaccine. He told the Land Commission that IHS, HLES, and other first responders will be prioritized. He said information of possible COVID homes and person positive was addressed at the beginning of the pandemic and was surprised that the information was not being passed on to responding officers. They are supposed to inform the responding officer of positive persons and able to tell the officer they are going into a potential hot spot. He assured Mahkewa it would be addressed.

Herman Honanie asked Hyer if there is a point with IHS and their HIPAA where rules do not apply to unique situation such as this pandemic. Honanie described how in villages word gets around and individuals are identified as COVID positive thru word of mouth. Hyer responded "No". He said there are exceptions when for safety reasons information can be shared without the patient's consent, but they are very limited.

b. Stewart Koyiyumtewa, Director of Hopi Cultural Preservation Office (HCPO)

Koyiyumtewa reported that based on a press release re: funding for a Chaco Study, his office will adhere to the Stay At Home Order and make adjustments to finish projects later. The funding is for a year and a half, with target date for the summer to do field work. Funding amount was cut due to Navajo applying Presently the number of the tribes applying will get \$95,000. Tribes were expecting half a million before Navajo was granted. The money is available in an account where CPO can bill the account and receive payment for work performed.

CPO has received requests from villages to conduct archeological surveys with CARES ACT funds received. An archeological survey was done at the Oraibi well site and the community development site; both did not yield any findings. An emergency request for archeological survey was also done at Moenkopi well site under the Stay At Home Order with the help of Honyumtewa. One item was found at the Moenkopi site and the report will be done soon.

CPO conducted a human repatriation with help of the Executive Offices. The burial was successful which included Pueblo tribes of Hopi, Zuni, Acoma, and Zia, present.

The Navajo water project study is in its last year and CPO planned to take the LC to visit; however, due to COVID, HCPO will finish the report. It was a beneficial project involving Hopi youth. The sec-

ond part of the Navajo Water Project is the mitigation of the archeological sites destroyed.

Hopi has filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration for reducing the area of Bears Ears National Monument. The suit was never heard so CPO hopes the new Biden administration will revert back to the Obama administration's declaration to expand the monument. If that happens, there will need to be an environmental assessment for the area.

c. Darren Talayumtewa, Director of Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program (WEMP)

Talayumtewa reported the Wildlife program investigated several calls about tracks around Hopi Jr./Sr. High School. Tracks were suspected to belong to a mountain lion; however, it was later determined to be a large canine. Findings were passed on to the HJSHS residents.

WEMP is asking the public to report sightings to HLES. The purpose for reporting is to provide justification for WEMP staff to follow up on reports since DNR has deemed WEMP staff as non-essential. The report justifies WEMP staff to come to work to follow up on report following the COVID protocols.

Priscilla Pavatea - Director of Office of Range Management (ORM)

Pavatea reported that the District Six and Hopi Partitioned Lands (HPL) cattle count was completed by paper. The numbers have been passed onto the Bureau for ORM contract. They recently received the 2001 Navajo permittee listing for grazing permits and are reviewing to ensure they match current stocking rates for their particular range units. ORM will issue letters to confirm allocations and grazing permit fee. HPL and district six Hopi permittees are informed by letter that their permit fees for 2021 are due in accordance with Ordinance 43 at the end of the month of December.

Permits have been adjusted with a 30% decline because of lack of moisture. Ranges will be reassessed in the spring and its possible permitted animal units may be reduced by about 50% depending on moisture. Both water and vegetation are negatively impacted. ORM worked with the water resource to apply for a grant to assess the cap wells on the land base and to see if they could possibly be reused using solar or windmill set up. ORM is waiting to hear back on the status on the Grant. The grant is worth \$200,000.

Pavatea said only the windmill crew is working and considered essential workers. She

stated heavy equipment operators were left off but they are essential to the windmill crew's work. She said under ORM's contract it requires heavy equipment operators be licensed and none of the windmill crew have licenses to operate the equipment. ORM is working on getting the heavy equipment operators on the essential workers list. She commented that the majority of the DNR personnel are not included as essential workers. In the Executive Order, departments are to improvise to keep programs operating in a manner that still meets the needs of tribal government services.

Pavatea assured the Land Commission that Range Techs are essential workers and are out on the range land monitoring. She explained how the Navajo Stay At Home Order is increasing migration onto Hopi; especially in the area between the HPL and Navajo Partitioned Land (NPL) border where green tree cutting is a problem along the boundary fence line. In her opinion, lack of enforcement is a problem which causes destruction of our natural resources.

She said ORM has been considering drones; however, Management Information Systems (MIS) has to approve drones for ORM. She said so far LIS is the only department that has completed the licensing process. The rest of the programs/departments who have requested drones haven't been addressed. She said ORM has been asking for the past five years for drones to assist in doing their job and feels it is MIS which continues to deny ORM.

Clayton Honyumtewa, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director

Honyumtewa reported DNR submitted a request for essential employees for the heavy equipment operators and Talayumtewa's woodlands crew and the wildlife Techs. As of meeting date, no decision has been received from the Executive Director. He informed the Commission that one heavy equipment operator has been working at Pasture Canyon working on irrigation ditches. He explained the woodlands crew has a schedule and it is publicized. Hopi members know the schedule and continue to show up at the Hart Ranch to harvest wood.

He stressed the essential workers list was submitted to the VC's office and concerned that if the requests are not approved, the public will flood his department with complaints. No livestock inspections will also cause complaints to his department. He suggests HLES reconsider continuing livestock inspections.

Cont'd on P7

FIRST MESA CONSOLIDATED VILLAGES

STAFF:

Ivan Sidney Village Administrator

Brannon Sidney Accountant

Sharon Grover Water Clerk

Merideth Qotswisiwma Staff Assistant

Alphonso Sakeva, Jr Water Operator

Joshua Huma Public Safety Officer

Ramon Howato Public Safety Officer

Louella Furcap Editor/PIO Website Administrator

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

TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Albert Siquah

Dale Siquah

Wallace Youvella, Sr.

Wallace Youvella, Jr.

FMCV Hours of Operation Limited Business Services

FMCV Administration

Due to the continued increase in Covid-19 cases, the FMCV Admin Office is open for Business by Telephone only, at 928-737-2670, Monday-Friday, from 9am-4pm (closed 12-1).

Business Services and Staff hours are limited. No copy service and No fax service.

There will be NO Physi-

cal Contact with Customers. A Drop Box has been set-up outside the door for correspondence drop-off. Push buzzer at the door and Staff will assist you via intercom.

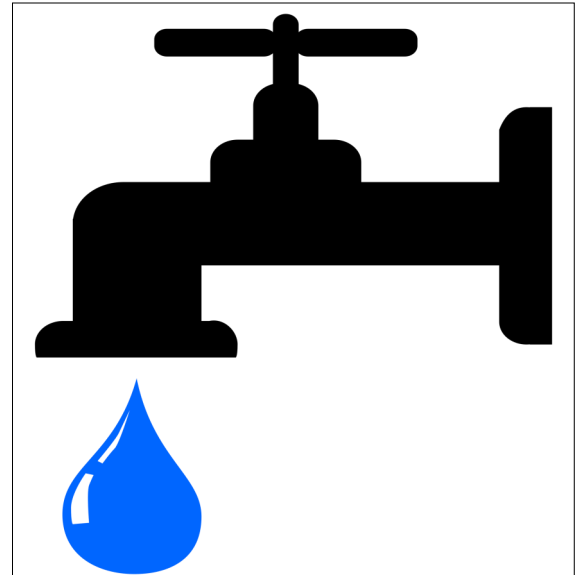
Water Payments may be made by telephone using a debit or credit card. Payments may also be made by Money Order and mailed to: PO Box 260, Polacca, AZ

86042. No personal checks accepted.

Water Operations are a high priority and Operators are on-call 24/7. There will be No Portable Pumping during this time and No Portable toilets available for rent.

For information call the office Monday-Friday between the hours of 9am-12n and 1pm-4pm.

Tips to Keep Pipes from Freezing



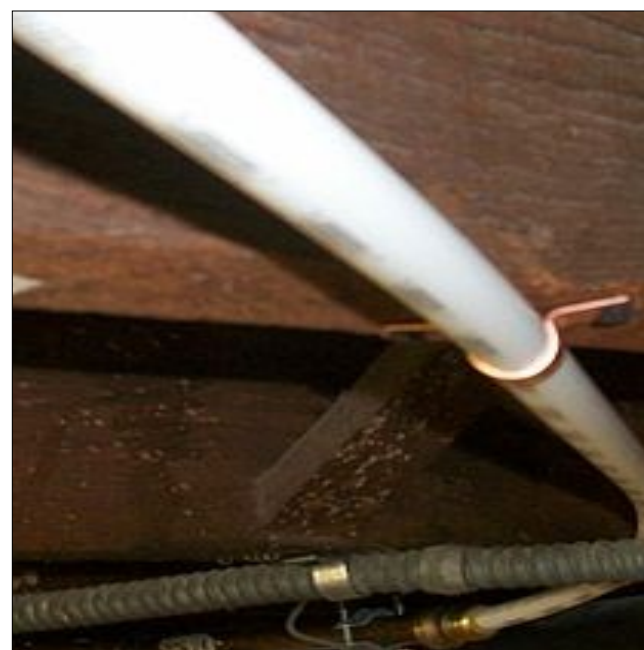
Freezing Temperatures Cold temperatures can cause water pipes to freeze. Freezing in a pipe creates a lot of pressure inside the pipe and can cause the pipe to burst and likely lead to serious flooding; especially when there's no one around to turn the water off.

Allow Faucet to Drip If you are afraid a pipe will freeze, you can open the faucet just enough so the faucet drips slightly. Allowing the faucet to be open like this relieves pressure in the system. If a pipe freezes, it is actually the pressure that is created between the blockage and the faucet that will cause the pipe to burst.

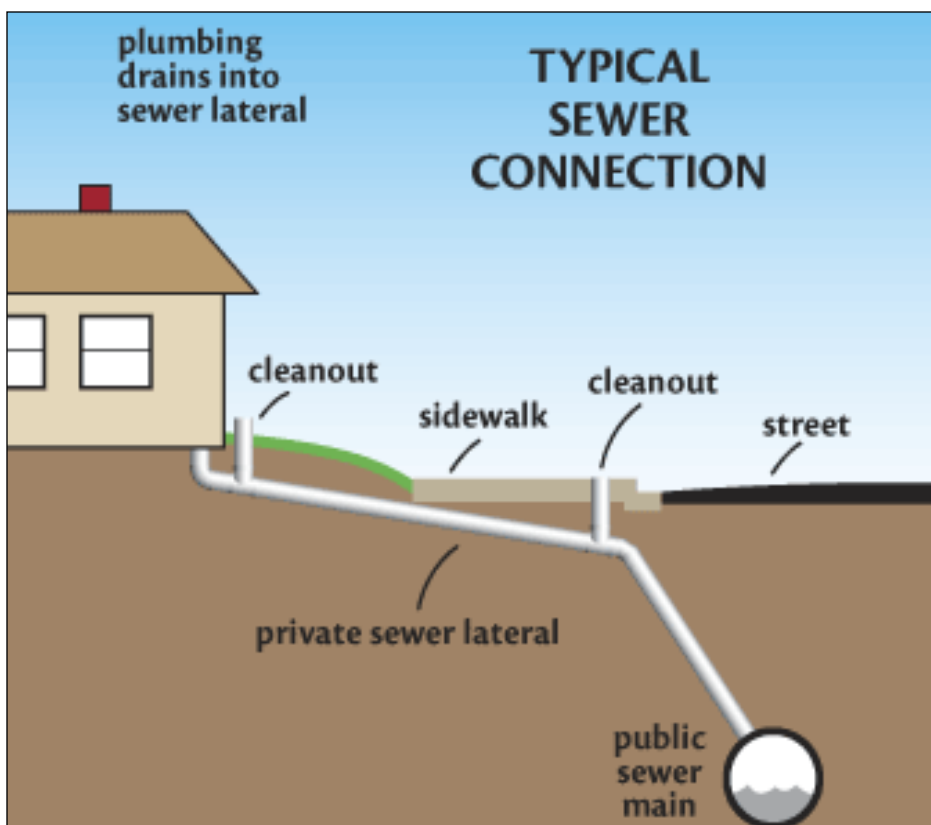
Apply Heating Tape Heating tape works like an electric blanket for

pipes, supplying heat directly to the pipe to keep it warm. This can be a good solution for short sections of pipe that are at high risk for freezing and are easily accessible so you can install the tape and can monitor it for problems.

Add Extra Insulation Pipes that are located in areas that do not have proper insulation, may need extra insulation to keep from freezing. Pipes can be fitted with foam rubber or fiberglass sleeves to help decrease the chances of freezing. Insulation can help keep a pipe closer to the temperature of the water inside the pipe, but it does not add heat to the pipe and will not prevent freezing if the pipe is exposed to prolonged freezing temperatures.



2021 Happy New Year May your year be filled with Peace, Health and Prosperity. Remain vigilant and prayerful. Stay Safe.



FMCV Water Department Notice

Water Operations will continue to be a priority; however, due to limited staff during this time, the FMCV Water Department will not be doing any porta-pumping. No Portas are available for rent at this time.

2021 First Mesa Consolidated Villages Water Payment Due Date Schedule

| MONTH | DUE DATE (\$10.00 Late Fee Assessed After) | DATE PAYMENT MADE |
|-----------|--|-------------------|
| JANUARY | Wednesday, February 10, 2021 | |
| FEBRUARY | Wednesday, March 10, 2021 | |
| MARCH | Monday, April 12, 2021 | |
| APRIL | Monday, May 10, 2021 | |
| MAY | Thursday, June 10, 2021 | |
| JUNE | Monday, July 12, 2021 | |
| JULY | Tuesday, August 10, 2021 | |
| AUGUST | Friday, Sept. 10, 2021 | |
| SEPTEMBER | Monday, October 11, 2021 | |
| OCTOBER | Wednesday, November 10, 2021 | |
| NOVEMBER | Friday, December 10, 2021 | |
| DECEMBER | Monday, January 10, 2022 | |

Condolences

Condolences to those who have recently lost loved ones.

Please take care of yourselves and your family during these trying times. One death is way too many.

Tsa-ak Mongwi the Village Crier

If you have news or information share with the Community, please forward articles to the FMCV Office, Attn: Newsletter.

During this time of Social Distancing, we would like to share your news, announcements and stories.

THIS MONTH IN HOPI HISTORY

AD

Hopi ancestors built houses in dry caves in the Four Corners Region.

AD 1260-1300

Betatakin and Keet Seel occupied by Hopi Clans.

1895

Hopi Leaders imprisoned at Alcatraz for 8 mos

PUBLICATION DATE:

2nd & 4th Monday of month

DEADLINE:

News articles, Announcements, Letters to Editor, etc., Due Wednesday, 1pm


CONTACT:

Louella N. Furcap, Editor PO Box 260 Polacca, AZ 86042 Tel: 928-737-2670




COVID-19 Vaccine is now available at the Hopi Health Care Center





Hopi Law Enforcement Services
PO BOX 123
KYEKOTSMOVI, AZ. 86039
(928)734-7340



PUBLIC NOTICE
January 7, 2021

With the current Executive Order No. 007-2020: Reservation-wide Lockdown for All Residents of the Hopi Reservation to limit and control the Spread of the COVID-19 virus in place, Hopi Law Enforcement Services (HLES) is authorized and will conduct **safety/educational checkpoints**. We will be reminding people on Hopi that there is a lockdown in place and that travel/movement is to be limited to ensure continued safety and prevention of the spread of the COVID-19 virus among the villages.

HLES Officers will start the checkpoints and warnings will be given to all who are out after the 8:00 pm curfew set by the Executive Order. Patrols on the highways throughout the Hopi Tribal Jurisdiction through the duration of the Executive Order can result in individuals on the roads between 8:00 pm and 5:00 am without having an essential employee letter or without justified cause to be traveling during curfew hours will be cited.

Expect Officers to be highly visible on the highways and roadways, and conducting safety checkpoints and issuing citations. **This notice is in effect until February 1, 2021.**

HLES wishes everyone to be safe and to stay healthy and that means Stay at Home and prevent the high numbers of positive cases rising here on Hopi.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lt. Marcus Yowytewa at (928) 734-7340.

Visit Us Online at: www.firstmesaconsolidatedvillages.com

Give Thanks to the Lord for He is good; His love endures forever.

1Chronicles 16:34

Continued from P4—Dale Siquah Report

Honyumtewa said despite the pandemic, progress is still being made, although slow. He is concerned about livestock trespass, fence cutting and green wood cutting on HPL and NPL border.

He said HLES is getting assistance by hiring Range Technicians positions under the Tribal Rangers using Navajo Billing Funds and two positions are funded by WEMP. He said there are eight Range Technicians funded to assist Tribal Rangers under HLES and next year it will increase to ten.

Honyumtewa said reservation permits will continue to be issued each Wednesday outside the Honanie building and said, if needed Hart Ranch

permits can also be issued. Woodland crews have been approved as essential workers as of 1/7/2021 and will issue permits at the Hart Ranch.

Andrews requested a written report concerning the Range Tech issues and how they were resolved. He also asked about ordinance issues which OGC is a part of. Honyumtewa said he spoke with GC and provided all the revisions that were proposed in the past and hopes OGC is working on it. Hyer said he is aware OGC received the documents from DNR and continues to work on the ordinance.

Rosa. Honanie asked how essential workers are determined. On the livestock inspection issue she agreed with Honyumtewa that inspections should

continue. Ranchers have been mandated a 30% reduction by ORM and must be afforded the opportunity get livestock inspected so they can haul and sell their cattle to comply with the reduction. Honyumtewa committed to write a memo to the Chief with those concerns and the need for inspections. He said under ordinance 43 he has the authority to mandate HLES to continue livestock inspections.

Lomayestewa was asked re: projects from Renewable Energy. He said the Spower offer letter for the AHA ranch, offered a million dollar per year lease revenue. Spower has increased their initial offer. The request for special land use assignments is moving forward and there is another on the I-40

corridor. He wants the special land use request on HTC's agenda since they are tied to BOR funding for 2020. He said he is drafting a letter which will come from the Chairman's office to BOR asking for an extension of funds due to time lost to COVID-19.

Lomayestewa said he accompanied clan leaders to the AHA Ranch site and once they saw the area and the land use was explained to them, they seemed to agree with the project. The boundaries of both the wind and solar projects were described to them and they got a better understanding.

Meeting adjourned 12:53

Navajo and Hopi Statements on the demolition of smokestacks at the largest coal plant in the West

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, Dec. 18, 2020
Nicole Horseherder, Tó Nizhóní Aní, nhorseherder@gmail.com, 928-675-1851
Carol Davis, Diné CARE, carol.davis@dine-care.org, 928-679-5045
Ben Nuvamsa, former Hopi Tribal Chairman, ben@kivainstitute.com, 928-380-6677

PAGE, Ariz. – At 8:30 a.m. on Friday morning, explosions rocked the base of the first of three massive smokestacks that have dominated the horizon on the western edge of the Navajo Nation for a half century. In slow motion, the towering stack came crashing down in a thundering cloud of dust, followed in succession by the other two as part of Salt River Project's demolition of the largest coal-burning power plant in the West.

The demolition of the three 775-foot-tall smokestacks at Navajo Generating Station (NGS) is hugely symbolic. It marks the close of a painful chapter for thousands of Navajo and Hopi whose lives and families have been impacted by coal. Until it closed last November, the 2,400

MW power plant generated electricity for Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and other cities, insultingly bypassing Navajo and Hopi homes and businesses. The plant also pumped the massive amounts of water that has allowed Phoenix to grow into the fifth largest city in America, all while thousands of Navajo and Hopi homes also lack access to running water.

"The demolition of the smokestacks at NGS is a solemn event," said Nicole Horseherder, Executive Director of the Navajo grassroots group Tó Nizhóní Aní, which has worked for 20 years to move the Navajo Nation past coal. "It's a reminder of decades of exploitation subsidized by cheap coal and water from the Navajo and

Hopi. Coal provided jobs and revenue to the Navajo Nation, but Navajo ranchers and farmers, who depended on the land that was mined and the water that fed the mine and power plant, shouldered the cost. While miners were provided safety gear as they worked, hundreds more living near the coal industrial complex had to endure asthma and other health issues without any recourse. That chapter is now closed," Horseherder continued. "But the work is far from over. We have to make sure Kayenta Mine is cleaned up. We have to secure water and electricity for many communities that lack access to both. We have to replace the millions of dollars in lost coal revenue from the abrupt closure of the plant

and coal mine. And we have to make sure investment flows back into building a more sustainable economy for the Navajo and Hopi."

"We're hopeful that this marks the continuation of our transformation into a sustainable economy that is built on fundamental Navajo and Hopi respect for air, land and water and that will have direct, measurable benefits for our communities, not exploit them," said Carol Davis, Executive Director of the Navajo grassroots group Diné CARE. "We hope the incoming Biden Administration follows through on commitments it has made to Native American tribes and assist us in addressing the many problems left behind by 50 years of over-dependence on coal."

"So far, the federal government has failed to meet even its most basic trust responsibilities to the Navajo and Hopi," said Ben Nuvamsa, a former chairman of the Hopi Tribe. "The massive coal pits and piles that stretch across thousands of acres at Kayenta Mine remain as they were when the mine closed more than a year ago. Billions of gallons of pristine water were pumped from the Navajo Aquifer and I'm not sure if it will recharge in our lifetime. There must be accountability for cleaning up this mess, for restoring vital groundwater that was taken from us and for returning the countless artifacts and burial sites that were removed for the mine." ###

MENTAL HEALTH AND COPING DURING CORONAVIRUS

REACTIONS YOU MAY FEEL INCLUDE:

- Fear and worry about your own health status and that of your loved ones.
- Changes in sleep or eating patterns.
- Difficulty concentrating.
- Worsening of chronic health problems.
- Increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT YOURSELF:

- Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage of Coronavirus.
- Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep and avoid alcohol and drugs.
- Make time to unwind and remind yourself that strong feelings will fade.
- Connect with others and share your concerns and how you are feeling with friends or family members.
- Maintain healthy relationships.
- Maintain a sense of hope and positive thinking.


TAKING CARE OF YOUR WELLBEING:

- Connect with people
- Decide on your routine
- Try to keep active
- Keep your mind stimulated
- Take care with news and information
- Find ways to relax and be creative




COVID-19


Cover your coughs or sneezes with tissues or your elbow




Put your used tissue in the rubbish bin or in a plastic bag



Wash and dry your hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing – use soap or hand sanitiser



Stay away from others if you're unwell



COVID-19 HEALTH ADVICE
0800 358 5453

health.govt.nz/COVID-19

Hopi Tribe Department of Health Services COVID-19 Report

KYKOTSMOVI, AZ – January 6, 2021 — The United States registered its highest deaths yet from the coronavirus on the day a mob attacked the U.S. Capitol. On Wednesday, the nation recorded nearly 3,900 deaths. The virus is surging in nearly every state. California is particularly hard hit, with skyrocketing deaths and infections threatening to force hospitals to ration care. Arizona had the highest rate of new coronavirus infections. Arizona's rate of 121.8 cases per 100,000 people over the last week is the highest rate in the country. Arizona is also the only state with a rate higher than 100 per 100,000 people.

Community mitigation efforts aim to reduce the rate at which someone infected comes in contact with someone not infected, or reduce the probability of infection if there is contact. The more a person interacts with different people, and the longer and closer the interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. As communities adjust mitigation strategies, they should ensure that the healthcare system capacity will not be exceeded. Precautions should be taken to protect health care professionals and other critical infrastructure workers. Communities need to assure healthcare systems have adequate staffing, a surplus of inpatient and ICU beds, and critical medical equipment and supplies such as PPE. The Hopi community needs every individual citizen to take responsibility with helping the efforts of mitigating the community wide spread. We are seeing continued increases in cases in every single village on the reservation.

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

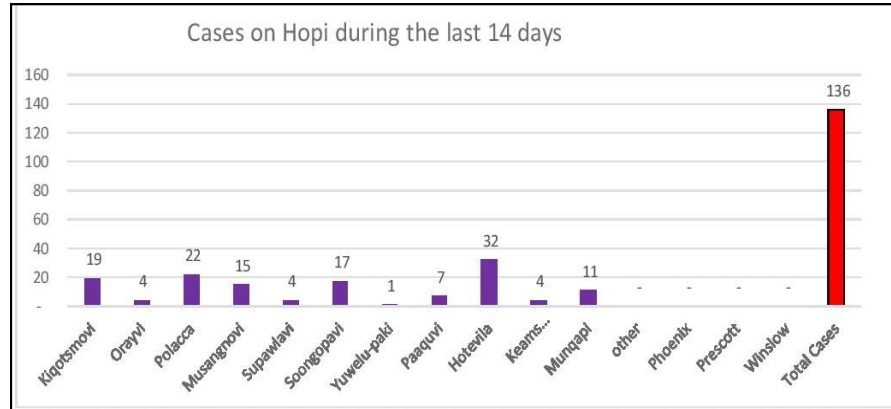
As of this date – January 6, 2021

The United States now has approximately 21.26million confirmed positive cases with 299,904 new cases and over 359,849 deaths reported.

Over 584,593 confirmed positive cases now exist in Arizona. Of those, close to 12,086 are in Navajo County alone.

The Hopi Health Care Center has tested over 7,552 patients to this date. Over 1,051 of those tests at Hopi Health Care Center came back positive with 729 from Hopi Tribal members. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation reported 152 positives for Hopi Villages with a combined number of 881 positive Hopi Tribal members.

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



This graph demonstrates the active cases and is stratified by village. Currently there are **136** active cases are defined as, persons that have had a positive test result or symptom onset in the last 14 days. In this graph, the Total cases bar is all villages combined and should be excluded from the remainder of the graph. This graph demonstrates that majority of the active cases reside inside of Hotvela, and Polacca; however, due to all villages having cases there is widespread community transmission. This graph is useful in isolating where the virus is most active at the current moment.



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.



| Hopi COVID-19 Reported Cases by Hopi Health Care Center Cases* January 6, 2021 | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | Number Tested Today | Cumulative Number Positive | Cumulative Number Negative | Total Number in Process | Total Tested |
| | 44 | 1,051 | 6,409 | 49 | 7,552 |
| <i>Note: These data include newly added testing results from the Abbott ID NOW machine since April 20, 2020.</i> | | | | | |
| Number of Cases per Village as of January 6, 2021 | Reported by HHCC | Reported by Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation | Total | | |
| Kiqötsmovi | 52 | 11 | 63 | | |
| Orayvi | 15 | | 15 | | |
| Polacca (Walpi-Sitsom'ovi-Tewa) | 233 | 7 | 240+ | | |
| Musangnuvi | 78 | | 78 | | |
| Supawlavi | 41 | | 41+ | | |
| Söngoopavi | 171 | | 171+ | | |
| Yuwelu-paki | 11 | | 11 | | |
| Paaqavi | 21 | | 21 | | |
| Hotvela | 78 | 20 | 98(+) | | |
| Keams Canyon | 22 | 9 | 31 | | |
| Munqapi | 1 | 105* | 106* | | |
| Phoenix | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Winslow | 4 | | 4 | | |
| Prescott | 1 | | 1 | | |
| TOTAL | 729 | 152 | 881 | | |

* The information by villages presented above 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.

** A total of 881+ individuals who tested positive are members of the Hopi Tribe.

+ Includes Village member(s) retested positive