



# First Mesa Consolidated Villages Newsletter

**VOL. 1, NO. 6**

**June 8, 2020**

**UYISMUYA**

**Planting Moon  
Month of planting**

**Summer Solstice**

**This Month in  
Hopi History**

**AD 1—700:**

Hopi Ancestors cultivated corn, beans, squash, cotton and turkeys

**6/10/1920:**

Villagers forcibly dipped in de-lousing chemicals

**6/2/1924:**

Native Americans granted US citizenship

**6/20/20**

Summer Begins

**6/21/20**

Fathers Day

## HHS Class Of 2020 Graduation

Hopi High School celebrated a Drive-Through Graduation on May 28. This graduation celebration was not the normal traditional commencement exercises we have become accustomed to. But what is normal these days?

The celebration was live-streamed and showed decorated vehicles with extremely happy grads (and parents) driving up to receive diplomas from Acting Superintendent Alban Naha, as Principal Lynn Fredericks called Roll.

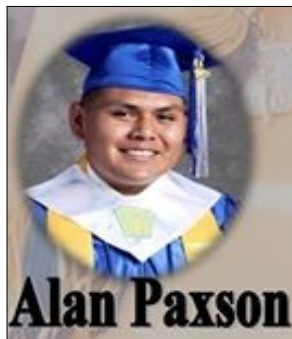
The u-tube video can be viewed at the school's facebook page.

To respect the protocols set forth by the Gov. Board and Administration, FMCV did not attend the Ceremony to cover the event.

The FMCV Leadership Congratulates and wishes all graduates continued success in their future endeavors; whether it be post-secondary education, training, military or employment.

**Cont'd on P2**

## HHS National Honor Society Members



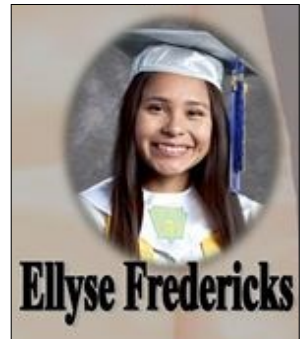
**Alan Paxson**  
Co-Valedictorian



**Kaleen Joseph**  
Co-Salutatorian



**Kaila Nez**  
Co-Salutatorian



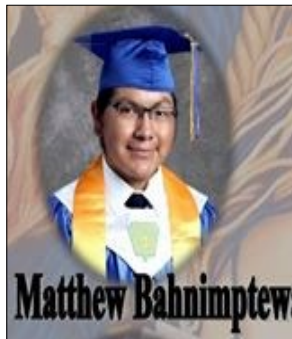
**Ellyse Fredericks**  
NHS Member



**Kelly Manheimer**  
NHS Member



**Sarena Honani**  
NHS Member



**Matthew Bahnimptewa**  
NHS Member



**Mikiala Elthie**  
NHS Member

**NHS Members not pictured: Khai Michael Elliott, Co-Valedictorian; Cierra Kalie Brady, Shanique Brion Campus, Evan Lee Lomayaktewa**

# HOPI HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020

Kimmale Alaynah Anderson  
 Anissa June Antone  
 Anita Mae Antone  
 Channing Bryce Antone  
 Matthew Jacob Bahnimptewa \*  
 JaSiya Corbin Begay  
 Iverson Brandon Blie  
 Cierra Kalie Brady \*  
 Shaniqua Brion Campus \*  
 Angelina Marie Coochise  
 MaLayzia Bit'ahnii Cowboy  
 Catrina June Dashee  
 Jamie Lynn Dashee  
 Isaac Jaden Dennis  
 Daryl Donovan Domingo  
 DeShayne Cassandra Domingo  
 Khai Michael Elliott \*\*\*  
 Mykiala Mileah Elthie  
 Juan De Dios Espinoza \* angovia  
 Ellyse Sikyahongsi Fredericks \*  
 Daniel Zack Harris  
 Adam Kyle Harvey  
 Marina Rose Harvey  
 D'Aundre Victor Honahni  
 Ashley La'Rae Honahnie  
 Hope Ellen Honani  
 Sarena Kyra Honanie \*  
 Ah-Goon Emilio Honie \*

Len'Mana Marjorie Honie  
 Terrill Willis Humeyestewa  
 Crystal Mae James  
 Jackisha Kelly James  
 Kaleen Love Joseph \*\*  
 Michealla Quora Kagenveama  
 Megan Maree Kaye  
 Sherice Emily Keevama  
 Leyton Anslem Klee  
 Keanu Jae Kootswatewa  
 Kierra Bahnumsie Nizhoni Lee  
 Deandra Lynn Lente  
 Deidra Grace Lente  
 Melissa Renee Lomahoema  
 Mina Nola Lomatska  
 Jeremy Willis Lomavaya  
 Warren Lomawaima  
 Evan Lee Lomayaktewa \*  
 Neilson Lorenzo Lomayestewa  
 Kelly Lynn Manheimer \*  
 Kuautli Manuelito  
 Jonathan Randall Miranda  
 Marcus Bray Navema  
 Ashlynn Knight Nelson  
 Sierra Sky Nelwood  
 Kaila Lynn Nez \*\*  
 Aneesa Joyce Nutumya  
 Elizabeth Brooke Nutumya

Shaunanthony Pashano  
 Allan Isaac Paxson \*\*\*  
 Bianca Faith Phillips  
 La'Nae Joyce Polingyumptewa  
 Garylyn Hope Poocha  
 Dwight Quinten Pooyouma  
 Aidan Raymond Puhuyesva  
 Cassidy Haley Rogers  
 Ethan Joseph Ross  
 Christa June Russell  
 Joshua Kyle Sakenima  
 Aerele Kirin Sakeva  
 Alyena Sakiestewa  
 Mariah Lucille Satala  
 Autumnn Lauren Secakuku  
 Talia Rose Sehongva  
 Alvin Lewis Silas  
 Isaiah Thomas Silas  
 WyQuiin Al Speen  
 Jaden Tuff Stone  
 Isaac Virgil Talas-Lomayaktewa  
 Devyn Nanty Talayumptewa  
 Dontay Aiden Tootsie  
 Symon James Tootsie  
 Isaac Larren Tsipai  
 Angelina Dawa Vale  
 Damion Elliot Wilson  
 Alicia Youyetewa

\* National Honor Society

\*\*Co-Salutatorians \*\*

\*Co-Valedictorians


**Congratulations**  
**Shaunanthony Pashano**  
 We are Proud of You.  
 We will miss you on the Bruin Court!

Congratulations  
 Alvin Silas  
 We're Proud of  
 You. Keep Going

*Congratulations*  
 Elyse  
 Fredericks

Aerele Kirin  
 Sakeva  
 Congratulations

Hopi High School Class of 2020 Bruin Pride

**Congratulations**  
  
 Allan Paxson  
 All the hard work paid off

  
**Kaleen Joseph**  
 Congratulations  
 on your  
 accomplishments

Congratulations  
*Megan Kaye*

CONGRATULATIONS  
 To all  
 GRADUATES



## Yok' Naawakinta Helps Hopi members



L-R: Ellyse Fredericks, Storm Tso, Alexis Kahe, Co-Founder's Yok'Naawakinta store water donations at the First Mesa Baptist Church

**By: Elyse Fredericks**  
**Co-Founder Yok'Naawakinta**

SECOND MESA, Ariz.— Alexis Kahe, Ellyse Fredericks and Storm Tso, co-founders of Yok'Naawakinta, which means hoping or praying for rain, have created a Campaign to receive water and cleaning supplies to help the Hopi communities.

The group have been working on their campaign since the beginning of April. The project started as a Public Statement Announcement (PSA) video and then, a donation drive.

Kahe works for a company called Center for Entrepreneurial Innovation (CEI) located in Phoenix. Her boss and co-workers helped with the donation drive and the CEI group travelled to Flagstaff where the Yok'Naawakinta Team met them and picked up their donations on May 20.

Since then, the group was able to

expand their Campaign and received a large amount of water from a generous donor. On June 5, they received more water donations and recently created a GoFundMe account under their Campaign name to purchase cleaning supplies.

The Campaign focus is to bring awareness and focus to the coronavirus pandemic through the PSA video and to help provide safe, drinkable water. Water on the Hopi Reservation has high levels of arsenic contamination. The Yok'Naawakinta Team encourages Hopi residents to stay home, by providing items to households in need.

"We want to influence others that anything is possible and it's important to help your community and be a positive change," said Kahe.



## 24-Hour ATM Service



After several requests for banking services on the Hopi Reservation, a 24-hour Bank of America ATM was installed outside the Keams Canyon Shopping Center.

Currently, at least three non-bank ATMS are installed in business establishments on the Hopi Reservation; and accessible only when the business is open.

"The Hopi people deserve and are entitled to services of major banks," said FMCV Ad-

ministrator Ivan Sidney. "Being isolated, we must have more localized business to support the needs of our people. The Bank of America ATM is a step in that direction. We all look to maximize what money we earn to support our families."

The Hopi community continue to ask for a full service bank on the Hopi Reservation.

Thanks to the FMCV traditional leadership for their support and approval of this project.

**Volunteers L-R: Daniel Lim, Chan Lim, Hale Kahe, King Honani Sr, Gary Tso, Jamie Kootswytewa, Humewysi Sockya, and Michael Shupla**  
**Bottom Co-Founders: Storm Tso, Ellyse Fredericks and Alexis Kahe**

## **HTHA Board of Commissioners approve CARES Act Grant Proposal for a Dialysis Center and Ten Assisted Protective Elderly/Veteran Homes; then fail to meet submissions deadline to Federal Government**

Since the announcement of the \$85.5 million CARES Act relief aid to the Hopi Tribe, tribal members have questioned the priorities of the Tribal Council and ask to be informed and involved in the the budget proposals and question how the funds are being spent.

The First Mesa Consolidated Village (FMCV) Office has received several recommendations and requests from its village members asking for certain services and specific projects.

Among those, a free standing, full-service Dialysis Center and 10 Assisted Protective Homes for the Elderly and Veterans. These have been requests by, not only First Mesa residents but, Hopi people across the reservation. It was also deemed necessary that the homes be used to temporarily quarantine those testing positive for the coronavirus; and once the pandemic passes, revert to the Elderly and Veteran services.

Upon consultation and sup-

port from the traditional leadership FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney solicited the assistance of former Hopi Tribal Housing Authority (HTHA) Executive Director Chester Carl to submit a Proposal and all the necessary paperwork, including a Resolution, to HTHA for funding through the HUD/HTHA CARES Act allocations Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) and the HTHA Indian Housing Plan (IHP).

The FMCV Proposal packet was submitted to the Housing Authority Office for approval by the Board of Commissioners (BOC), and at a meeting on June 1, the Proposal was approved by a vote of 3 yes, 2 no, 0 abstentions; Chairperson presiding and not voting.

Nearly a week after approval by the Housing Board, Sidney received a message from the BOC Chair that a Resolution was not attached to the Proposal (although a draft resolution was submitted). Sidney was informed the application might not be approved at the

federal level due to no Resolution. Carl later learned that HTHA did not meet the submissions deadline; thus, **efforts for a Dialysis Center and Assisted Protective Homes for the Hopi people was lost.**

HTHA's allocation from the CARES Act/HUD Native American Programs is: \$2,016,465 million. However, HTHA only applied for \$1.5 million.

According to Annual Performance Reports, the HTHA has unexpended funds in 2018: \$14,178,855 million and 2019: \$15,674,001.94 million.

Total cost estimates for the Dialysis Center and 10 Assisted Protective Homes was \$5,276,248. The Proposal asked for \$1,255,645 million for the Dialysis Center and \$2,744,355 for 10 homes through the ICDBG CARES Act funding. The remaining \$1,276,248 was to be leveraged by the HTHA IHP and non-federal funding.

"We began moving fast on these much needed projects after we became aware of millions of unspent dollars by the Housing Authority and now more available through COVID-19 funding," said Sidney. "Our Village Consultant wrote a Proposal for the Projects and was approved by the Housing Board. The next step was to submit to the federal government for approval; unfortunately housing did not meet the submissions deadline and the project was lost.

The FMCV is also applying for funding through the HTHA IHP CARES Act funding for: Water utilities for 407 homes, Security Service for First Mesa Consolidated Villages/communities and Administrative management from the HTHA Indian Housing Plan.

FMCV is also working with Tim Bodell, Hopi Tribe Arsenic Mitigation Program Manager for customer water meters and other related water services for First Mesa residents.

***Tsangaw yep siiva maakti  
Itam ita' sinmuy amungem put ovi naanaywani***

## Suspects In Firearms Discharge Arrested

Two individuals suspected of discharging firearms in First Mesa, were arrested and incarcerated at the Navajo County Jail.

In the early hours of June 3, First Mesa Consolidated Villages (FMCV) Security Officers received an emergency call from a Village resident at Sichomovi Village, informing them of shots fired on the mesa and asked for protection for their safety. The Hopi Tribe Law Enforcement Services (HLES) were contacted and responded immediately.

The two suspects fled the scene down a foot trail from the mesa but were quickly apprehended by Hopi Police near a residential area adjacent to the FMCV office.

The suspects were arrested and transported to Holbrook where they were booked into the Navajo County Jail on several charges; including outstanding warrant. No injuries were reported and investigations are ongoing.

FMCV Security Officers Joshua Huma and Ramon Howato received the call and responded immediately.

## First Mesa Sees Increase in Drug Related Crimes

At the end of May into the first few days of June, the First Mesa Consolidated Villages (FMCV) saw an increase in what appeared to be drug related crimes.

Hopi Law Enforcement Service Officers and FMCV Security Officers responded to a report of an individual hitting a vehicle with an axe.

Hopi police responded and arrested the suspect. All windows on the vehicle were smashed and there were damages to the body of the vehicle.

No one was injured and the suspect was arrested and transported to the Navajo County Jail.

A few days later, an altercation between a female and a male was reported.

The altercation escalated to a domestic violence situation where a male was stabbed by the female friend. The suspect was arrested and transported to the County jail.

Because there is no Detention Center on the Hopi reservation, all suspects arrested are transported and incarcerated at the Navajo County Jail in Holbrook. Transports and incarcerations are very costly, but due to no detention facility, suspects & violators are transported to the County jail.

With the increase in crime, murders, self-abuse and destruction, caused by drug and alcohol addictions, a Treatment Ctr needs to be high priority of our Tribal

Leaders. Community members are in fear and outraged by the lack of enforcement in the villages and want heightened investigations and enforcement to cut down on drug and alcohol sales.

Crimes committed on the Hopi Reservation continue to go unsolved. Why? Does the BIA Law Enforcement need to take back our Law Enforcement system? Our Villages and communities need help. Community members are asking why the Hopi Tribe contracted the BIA police, when seemingly, they were Not Ready.

Our Hopi elders said we should never let go of the BIA because of their Trust Responsibilities to the Native People!

## First Mesa Villagers Ask for help with Traffic Control

Village residents have reported increased traffic on the mesa appearing to be drug and alcohol related and have requested that FMCV Public Safety Officers monitor & patrol the villages on First Mesa on a more regular basis.

Concerns about the high rate of speed at which drivers travel through villages, drivers under the influence of

alcohol and/or control substance and hazardous driving habits (texting and phone use) of drivers, prompted residents to call a meeting with FMCV Administrator Ivan Sidney, the FMCV traditional leadership and the Hopi Department of Transportation.

A meeting was held on June 5 where mesa residents brought out traffic issues, vio-

lations and unsafe driving habits of drivers and asked for help with traffic controls.

HDOT Director Michael Lomayaktewa is in full support of traffic control regulations and offered to put up signs to help curb the reckless driving habits.

Speed is a hazard as children are out playing in the villages and often times don't pay

attention to the traffic. A possibility of placing street lights in certain areas was also discussed; however, the First Mesa Consolidated Villages do not currently have a budget to add any more dusk to dawn lights.

FMCV, solely, has been paying for all dusk-to-dawn lights at Walpi, Sichomovi and Tewa Villages without assistance.

## Chairman Nuvangyaoma Extends Stay-At-Home Order

With the increase in positive COVID-19 tests among the Hopi community, Hopi Tribe Chairman issued Executive Order 002-3-2020, extending a previous Order to *Stay At Home*.

Resolved: "The Chairman of the Hopi Tribe directs that Executive Order 002-2-2020 shall be extended beyond May 31, 2020, and shall remain in effect through June 20, 2020, unless modified, extended or rescinded," executed May 27.

## COVID-19 Update Report

As of May 20, the Hopi Dept. of Health and Human Services reported the Hopi Health Care Center (HHCC) had tested a total of 1,361 people for the coronavirus. Of that amount, 111 were confirmed positive, 1,226 negative and 23 tests are pending. Of the 111 positive cases, 68 are Hopi.

The data below reflects patients tested at the HHCC and the Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (specifically Hopi tribal members) The data does not include data for those tested at any other facility.

	Report As of 6/3	As of 6/4
First Mesa (Polacca, Walpi, Sitsomovi, Tewa)	8	12
Keams Canyon		1
Yuwelu-pahki	5	5
Musangnuvi		
Supawlavi	4	7
Songoopavi	12	16
Kykotsmovi	4	4
Orayvi	4	4
Hotvela	3	3
Baacavi		
Upper /Lower Munqapi		16

## Hopi Tribal Council Accepts CARES Act funding

After several failed attempts to convene a Hopi Tribal Council (HTC) meeting, the Council was finally able to meet at the Hopi Jr Sr High School cafeteria, where there was ample room for safe distancing.

The HTC acted on priority agenda items and including Action Item #049-2020 authored by Tribal Treasurer Wilfred Gaseoma to "accept and approve the ex-

penditure of the CARES Act funding in the amount of \$85.5 million" allocated to the Hopi Tribe by the US Dept. of the Treasury.

In a May 14 Press Release, Vice Chairman Clark W. Tenakhongva stated, "Until a Resolution has been drafted and presented to the Hopi Tribal Council to accept the CARES Act funding for the Coronavirus relief, this money is not an offi-

cial part of the Tribal coffers; however, once these funds are accepted, it is my hope that we can prioritize efforts to improve community infrastructure which in turn will improve our ability to respond and prepare for future emergencies such as this."

The HTC established a CARES Act Committee to plan and prioritize use of the \$85.5 in consultation with Villages.

## FMCV Coronavirus Update

The FMCV office was informed that four more village members had tested positive at the Hopi Health Care Center (HHCC) and were sent home to self-quarantine. In one home, multiple family members have tested positive.

Another patient was discharged from the Tuba City Regional Health Care Center; however, after only a couple hours at home, the individual became sick and was treated at HHCC and immediately flown to Phoenix. The patient was discharged and now recovering at home.

The FMCV Leadership encourage everyone to Keep Safe. Wear protective masks out in the public and wash your hands often.

*The most painful thing is losing  
yourself in the process of loving  
someone too much and forgetting  
that you are special too*

## Letter to the Editor & FMCV Hopi Tribal Council Representatives

Dear Honorable Leaders,

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the First Mesa Consolidated Village (FMCV) secured my service to assist in every possible way to protect and reduce the impact of coronavirus pandemic. FMCV has received donations and all supplies has been divided and distributed among the communities of Yuwelu Pa’Ki, Village of Tewa, Sichomovic, Village of Walpi and the Ponsi Hall. In addition, FMCV has proactive actions to assist families of First Mesa as follows:

To ensure the families were taking protective action against the virus, FMCV took action to make sure all the water to homes were connected and operating so the families could wash their hands for 20 seconds as medically recommend, although, some homes were under disconnection because of delinquency on their utility payment, they were re-connected. FMCV in its need’s assessment found that because many members of the villages are reliant to selling artwork and other self-enhanced business relying on tourist coming to visit and other means, the cost for paying for the water bill has been removed until the symptom of coronavirus to gone. Currently there are 470 service line in which the water is connected. FMCV does not have other means to assist with payment for the utilities cost, and with limited infrastructure available, this circumstance is critical in taking responsibility to protect, prevent and service the biggest population of Hopi at First Mesa against coronavirus pandemic. FMCV is still seeking assistance from the Cares Act IHP funding from Hopi Tribal Housing Authority (HTHA).

In addition, FMCV is working with Hopi Utility Corporation (HUC) to upgrade the water utility system to assist families with metered water line, so the families are responsible only to the amount of water they use. The plan is to develop an automatic water metering supply and seeking proposal, we receive information from installation contractors that substantiate \$3300 per service line installation budget sum. In assessment, there is approximately 500 (470) FMCV service

lines may require up to an additional \$700 per service line to deploy a separate ground penetrating radar buried utility location and non-destructive vacuum truck pothole contractor. With FMCV concurrence HUC recommends the FMCV meter installation project as a high priority for Hopi Tribes \$85 million CAREs Act funding as a nearly shovel ready project. The estimate cost for this project is \$2 million to help families bring their water service up to reasonable service.

The second major effort is helping the entire communities of Hopi in setting up operating facilities to house persons with COVID-19 if they are unable to isolate on their own. In the Hopi communities, families are housed in generations of families and separate independent housing are not available. As a result, the FMCV went back to the community land use plan conducted in 2017 to consider the potential of helping families around the communities with isolation of self-quarantine. The community land use plan done through the HTHA included additional housing development by the current medical hospital facility and including other developments. Using this community land use plan, FMCV decided to develop and construct ten, two-bedroom homes in this area to assist all members of the Hopi tribe. Once the coronavirus pandemic has passed, the homes will be used for elderly and veteran families. Included was to build a Dialysis Care Center to assist families here in Hopi, rather than having families travel to Winslow, Flagstaff or other long areas for Dialysis care.

This proposal was coordinated with the HTHA to submit the application to HUD under the ICDBG Cares Act Funding. Although the HTHA Board approved the submission, the attempt to submit the application a day after the application submission due date was not accepted. The HTHA never provided notice back of when the application was submitted. Information gained was that HUD was so flooded with applications that they were time stamping the applications down to second time. Applications were received under a first come, first serve basis. So, this effort to get the Dialysis Care Center and 10

Protective Homes was lost.

Eligibility for the Cares Act includes costs of establishing and operating facilities, such as isolation centers, to house persons with COVID-19 if they are unable to isolate on their own. Such facilities may include homeless persons or those that could possibly infect vulnerable populations, such as the elderly or those with existing medical conditions who are at high-risk.

Included in the cost would be environmental review, land withdrawal through the tribe and BIA, procurement in accordance with required federal regulations to get contractors to complete the project by December 30, 2021. The cost for this project is \$4.5 million. The following is a summary of funding being requested.

CARES Act Health Care Facilities (Dialysis Center)	\$1.3 million
CARES Act Isolation Center (10 Protective Housing)	\$3.2 million
CARES Act Water Utility Expense Assistance (meter installations)	\$2.0 million
<b>TOTAL FUNDING REQUEST</b>	
From CARES ACT	\$6.5 million

Also, for additional information in addressing the COVID-19 crisis, FMCV will be assessing the long-withheld HAMP water project to have safe water for the First Mesa and Second Mesa Communities bring non-arsenic water to the communities. Other areas of dealing COVID-19 crisis was to provide maintenance in upgrading filter and maintenance sewer pond to assist homes, schools, hospital and business facilities. Further, funding request to get web internet performance with adequate internet service to serve the schools and communities from the tribal Cares Act Funding.

Thank you for providing the Hopi First Mesa Community to get assistance and this assistance is open to help other villages just well. Please feel free to ask questions on this proposal.

Chester Carl  
FMCV Consultant



## Letter to the Editor

Editor:

The coronavirus (COVID-19) had a devastating effect on people throughout the world. Millions of people died from the effects of the virus. Our governments were caught unprepared, posing serious threats to the health, safety, and lives of people. In the United States, a national emergency was finally declared by the president on March 20, 2020. States and tribes also declared emergencies. Federal, state and tribal offices shut down. Tribes throughout the country closed access to their reservation lands. Our Hopi-Tewa village governments also closed access to their villages.

Access to hospitals and clinics was severely limited. Personal protective equipment (PPE) was, and is still, difficult to get. Front line workers risked their lives each day attending to the sick, operating with limited, or no PPEs. Some doctors and nurses lost their lives because of inadequate PPE supplies. Businesses shut down; and unfortunately, some will never reopen. Our economy was hit hard as people were laid off, furloughed, or simply lost their jobs. Those that depend on the tourist industry, lost the ability to make money. This hit our tribal member artists especially hard.

This virus affected our own Hopi Sinom, and our villages. Our central government was caught unprepared. Consequently, our village governments took it upon themselves and did what they needed to do to protect village residents using their limited funds and oftentimes, and without the required PPEs. Although I understand the Hopi tribal council approved \$1.0 million to address COVID-19 impacts, very little, if any, of it appears to be used to help the villages.

The U.S. Congress took action on March 27, 2020 and passed a \$2.0 trillion CARES Act budget package. The Act earmarked \$150.0 billion for states, local governments, and Indian tribes; \$10.0 billion of it is set-aside especially for Indian tribes. Hopi is entitled to its share of the \$10.0 billion, based on tribal enrollment, employment, and economic factors. The money is intended to be used to take steps to respond to the virus, to prepare for, and prevent the spread of the virus.

The Hopi tribe received approximately \$89.0

million in the first allocation (60%). The remaining 40% is yet to be distributed. But this is not the end of the CARES Act funds that will be provided (directly or indirectly) to the Tribe. The CARES Act provides additional funding for other programs, such as housing education, health care, nutrition, and economic development. The federal government set strict rules on the use of Coronavirus Relief Funds, so it is important that the tribe identify how the money will be used that will be in line with federal Treasury rules.

I write this article to provide background information on the CARES Act which many of our tribal members may not be aware of. But more importantly, I write to pose questions to the Hopi tribal council and its leadership, not as a complaint, but in hopes that constructive dialogue can begin between the central tribal government and our village governments. Village governments must be involved in the decision making so that village residents are protected; and that our villages can return to being a safe place to live. Village governments have been left out of the decision-making process. So, I ask the following questions:

(1) How is the \$1.0 million tribal budget being used; how much has been spent, and how was it spent; and how much is remaining; were any of the funds made available to the villages, and if not, why not?

(2) What is the exact role of the Hopi Emergency Response Team (HERT); how are they helping villages; are they coordinating with the villages; and are they keeping the people informed, if not, why not?

(3) Has the tribal council decided on the use of \$89.0 million it received so far; and are the intended uses in compliance with the CARES Act rules; will the villages be involved in making decisions on the use of the first allocation of funds and the remaining allocations, and if not, why not?

(4) The villages receive their share of all CARES Act funds allotted to the tribe; and if not, why not?

(5) Villages have already spent a lot of their limited annual allocations on this emergency, will the villages be reimbursed with CARES Act funds or tribal funds; and if not, why not?

6 Is the tribal government working to secure other CARES Act funds that it is entitled to; will villages be involved in this process, and if not, why not?

7 Is the tribal government (and HERT) working with the villages in addressing the immediate and long-term needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and if not, why not?

8 How is the Hopi Health Center working with the tribe, the HERT; and the village governments; are they coordinating testing, further hospitalization, and arranging the need for quarantining of those testing positive; and if not, why not?

9 How is the tribal government (and HERT) keeping the Hopi Sinom informed of issues impacting them; are there village meetings being held; and is HERT coordinating with the villages, and if not, why not?

There are many more questions, but the point of the questions is that village governments and their staff are on the front lines responding daily to COVID-19 because that is where our people live. The CARES Act funding is based on tribal enrollment. In other words, the amount of CARES Act money the tribe received is based on the number of people living in the villages (and those living off the reservation). Yet it appears villages are left out completely in the decision-making process, and in receiving their share of tribal and CARES Act funds.

As elected officials of the Hopi Tribe, your first duty is to the Hopi Sinom that you represent. In this respect, provide your answers to the above questions to the Hopi Sinom, as many are frustrated and they want answers. Tribal members all have a right to be involved in their government. Meet with them and talk with the (not to them); and provide written answers to them. Thank you for your time. Be safe because this pandemic is not over, as evidenced by the increasing number of COVID-19 test results.

/s/ Benjamin H. Nuvamsa  
Village of Songoopavi  
Former Hopi Tribal Chairman

cc: Hopi-Tewa Village Governments  
Office of Tribal Chairman, Hopi Tribe  
Office of Tribal Vice Chairman, Hopi Tribe  
Secretary – Hopi Tribal Council



## Book Reading Club for Middle and High School Students

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, I highly recommend you join our Pro-

ject. You will have an amazing time.

1. Apply at: <https://forms.gle/z7cMfrYtWy8dydy5>
2. Get matched with a College 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

## Critical Response Team Formed to Enhance Patient Care Across Indian Health Service

In a news release dated June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Indian Health Service (IHS) announced it will form “a Critical Care Response Team (CCRT) of expert physicians, registered nurses, and other healthcare professionals on a needed basis to provide urgent lifesaving medical care to COVID-19 patients admitted to IHS or tribal hospitals.”

The CCRT will be staffed through a contract awarded to Fire Creek Services Company, a Native-owned business, as part of the \$2.4 billion, the IHS received to provide resource and responding to COVID-19 activities.

“These expert medical professionals will conduct hands-on clinical education while treating patients, expanding capacity and training the frontline health care professionals on the most current information for the management of COVID-19 patients, and other critically ill patients. In the event a hospital or other medical location needs additional resources, the critical care response team can be mobilized and at the bedside of the patient within 24-48 hours notice.”

“A critical care response team will further enhance patient care across the Indian health system,” said IHS Director Rear Adm. Michael D. Weahkee. “This is a positive step in providing access to quality critical health care services, strengthening organizational capacity, improving operations and giving additional support to our frontline health care workers. Additional expert critical care support will assist IHS hospitals during a crisis and provide our most vulnerable patients the greatest chance of survival.”

“The IHS also continues to work with tribal, state and local partners to operate alternate care sites using existing buildings for patients who have been transferred from the hospital but still require some level of medical care. These patients may require oxygen and medications but do not require extensive nursing care or assistance with activities of daily living.”

## Mother’s Words for her Child

I am very much proud because I have a child like you. You are a beautiful person and I hope you will shine in life.

Never give up my child. You have the full ability to do anything. So keep working hard and follow your dream.

You are the person responsible for your happiness. We can only show you the path but you have to make the choice to make it. Think carefully and make wise decisions.

My prayer is always with you. I Love You.

### First Mesa Consolidated Villages

**STAFF:**

Ivan Sidney  
Village Administrator

Brannon Sidney  
Accountant

Merideth Qotswisiwma  
Staff Assistant

Sharon Grover  
Water Clerk

Alphonso Sakeva, Jr  
Water Operator

Jack Pashano  
Water Operator

Joshua Huma  
Public Safety Officer

Ramon Howato  
Public Safety Officer

**TRADITIONAL LEADERS**

James Tewayguna  
Kikmongwi

Dickson Silas  
Spokesman

Leo Lacapa  
Soyal Mongwi

Sam Tenakhongva  
Katsin Mongwi

**HOPI TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Albert Siquah  
Dale Siquah  
Wally Youvella, Sr.  
Wally Youvella, Jr.

**CONSULTANTS**

Louella Furcap  
Public Information  
Chester Carl  
Special Projects

## 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) >\$85.5 Hopi Tribe allocation
- \$1.032 billion Indian Health Service (IHS) >Hopi Health Care
- \$153.8 million Education Stabilization fund
- \$522 million to Bureau of Ind Affairs: >\$453 million BIA Office of Indian Programs (at least \$420M to Tribes for direct needs) >\$69 million Bureau of Ind Education BIE
- \$300 million HUD Native American Progs >\$2,016,465M Hopi Tribal Housing Authority (based on population statistics)
- \$100 million Agriculture– Food distribution programs on Indian Reservations

Too many times, we place others above and before us - Children, family, relatives. Our lives have become dysfunctional in so many ways during these trying times.

Do not be embarrassed to reach out to someone for help and keep busy to avoid feeling sad or lonely.



*Happy Birthday  
Quintin Nahsonhoya*

