Sihasin Funds Equipment Purchases

Six Navajo Communities have received heavy and farm equipment purchases with Sihasin Funds. The Communities included Naschitti Local Governance, Lukachukai Chapter, Jeddito Chapter, Bahast’lah Chapter, Coyote Canyon Chapter and White Cone Chapter. Deliveries to the communities started on August 26, 2019 and on through September 2019.

The communities submitted the Sihasin proposals, cost quotes, and worked with the vendors and the Capital Projects Management Department (CPMD) Project Manager to complete the purchase of the equipment. Mr. Elmer Johnson from CPMD was Project Manager for each of these Sihasin Funds equipment purchases. Ms. Margaret Begay, also from CPMD, processed the 6B Documents for the equipment purchases.

Naschitti received a John Deere Backhoe 310SL ($95,294) on August 26th and later in September, received a John Deere 644K Loader ($230,974). In September, Lukachukai ($95,294) received a John Deere 310SL Backhoe;
Jeddito ($92,792) and Bahastl’ah ($92,964) each received CAT 420F-2 Backhoes; Baahastl’ah ($37,628) and Coyote Canyon ($38,482) received Massey Ferguson Farm Tractors; and White Cone Chapter ($326,904) received a 672GP John Deere Motor Grader. Additional Sihasin equipment purchases are in process and will be delivered in the next few weeks.

CPMD Department Manager, James Adakai, said that it is rewarding to see the much needed services being delivered to the local level. It is the result of diligent work of the CPMD staff working with the chapters. CPMD will continue to provide technical services and administrative support to acquire more equipment and complete the projects as authorized through the sources of funding.
CROWNPOINT, N.M. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development Executive Director JT Willie joined local Crownpoint community members, Crownpoint Chapter officials, and 24th Navajo Nation Council members to celebrate the start of construction of the new Crownpoint Hotel and conference center, in the community of Crownpoint, N.M. on Friday.

The new hotel was part of the Permanent Trust Fund interest income five-year plan that was developed in collaboration with the Crownpoint Chapter, Division of Economic Development, Office of the President and Vice President, and the previous 23rd Navajo Nation Council. As Vice President of the Navajo Nation under the former Begaye-Nez Administration, they worked closely with Speaker Seth Damon and others to finalize legislation that was then approved by the Council and signed into law.

“The Crownpoint Chapter and its Land Use Planning Committee have worked on this project for several years and I commend them for their hard work and determination. Through our Diné teaching and practice of T’áá hwó’ ajít’ego, or self-reliance and self-determination, the local officials took it upon themselves to package this proposal and bring it forth to leaders at the central level. Once constructed, it will be a wonderful addition to the community and I am pleased to see this economic opportunity develop to create jobs, and strengthening the foundation for the community of Crownpoint to continue its growth,” said President Nez.

In 2013, John Daugomah and Jackie Curley of CSB Enterprizes, a majority Navajo-owned business, approached the Navajo Nation Eastern Regional Business Development Office and Crownpoint Chapter to inquire about developing a hotel project within the community. With a supporting resolution from the Crownpoint Chapter, the Division of Economic Development finalized a the business site lease in 2016 for CSB Enterprizes.

Additional funding sources were identified, through the Native American Bank, Navajo Sales Tax fund, Navajo Community Development Financial Institution, and the Office of the President and Vice President, for the $12.5 million project.

When JT Willie was appointed Executive Director of the Division of Economic Development I’m January, he allocated additional funds for the project as well. During the ceremony, JT Willie urged everyone to support the “Buy Navajo, Buy Local” initiative by using the new convention center for meetings and events rather than other hotels and centers off the Navajo Nation. He also recognized and thanked each staff member from the Division’s Eastern RBDO Office for their contributions and hard work.

“Today’s groundbreaking is the result of years of the hard work and persistence of local leadership working in partnership with Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development. This symbolizes what can be accomplished when we work together with our communities at the local level,” added President Nez.

“The community of Crownpoint has a vision for their community members and that encompasses economic opportunities and growth. The new hotel and conference center will open new doors of opportunity, new amenities, jobs, out-of-town visitors, and businesses. Also, the hotel’s full service will provide guests with convenient and comfortable stay while on the road,” added Vice President Lizer.

Crownpoint Chapter President Rita Capitan also offered her appreciation to everyone involved in the development of the long-awaited project. She also spoke about the benefits that the new hotel will provide for local residents and businesses, tourism, and more.

Also in attendance at the event was 24th Navajo Nation Council Delegates Mark Freeland, Wilson Stewart, Jr., Edmund Yazzie, Raymond Smith, Jr. and former Council Delegates Tom Chee and Jonathan Perry, who represented the Crownpoint community as a member of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council.

According to the Division of Economic Development’s Eastern RBDO official John Largo, the Crownpoint Hotel and conference center is expected to be completed in late 2020.

October 2019

BY CLAIRICE BEGAY, ASO, KAYENTA

On Tuesday, August 27, 2019, the ASC Kayenta office provided a training session for the Western area chapters. Sharon Jackson, SPPS for the ASC-Crownpoint office presented training on grant writing.

Sharon provided great insight for the chapters in attendance. She also had the attendees work in small groups to present on a grant proposal and provided feedback.

Oljato, Dennehotso, Chilchinbeto, Shonto, Kaibeto, and Bodaway-Gap Chapters were all present for this training.
On Saturday, October 19, 2019, the Chinle Agency Council met at the Rough Rock Community School. Several DCD representatives were in attendance at the meeting including Executive Director, Pearl Yellowman, and DCD department managers.

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez also made an appearance at the meeting and was provided an opportunity to make comments and answer questions from the council. President Nez also acknowledged members of his office and executive directors who were present.

There was much discussion on the post-closure activities for coal mines on the Navajo Nation to ensure safety for the Navajo people in the ensuing years. Another topic that received much discussion was the recent purchase of coal mines by Navajo Transitional Energy Company. People had concerns with the use of the Navajo Nation’s creditworthiness to make the purchase and any negative effects on the Nation’s financial standing if the purchased mines become insolvent. Another topic brought up a few times was the use of drought money from USDA's drought insurance program to repair windmills and water tanks.

DCD staff also introduced their departments or sections and provided updates on projects and initiatives.
Navajo Agricultural Products Industry ("NAPI") – Six local organizations were selected for the Navajo Pride Benefit Fund ("NPBF") to assist their respective community project, an award worth up to $5,000. The NPBF committee and NAPI management staff presented each organization with their award on September 25 at the main headquarters, south of Farmington, NM.

“I was really excited when I saw the letter, I was screaming in my office,” said Lucinda Barney, Community Service Coordinator of Tohatchi Community Chapter. “I told the rest of the office – the grant that we applied for, we got it!”

Tohatchi Community Chapter plans to utilize the fund for the Nakai Recreational Park. Barney explained that the park is deteriorating and the playground equipment is out of date. “With the rising diabetes in our youth and any age group, having updated equipment and new basketball courts would be a great asset and help in keeping our youth healthy and fit,” said Barney.

This is the second year for the annual NPBF that focuses on non-profit and education or community based organizations. The NPBF committee select projects based on the established criteria of the following categories: Development for Education, Programs for Youth/Senior/Veterans, Environment and Community Development, Economic Development, Agriculture or Health and Wellness.

Ralph Scott, Commander for the Indian Wells Veterans Organization explained how they needed a handicap ramp for their Veterans building. “We have one World War II Veteran left in Indian Wells who is over 100 years old and uses a wheelchair. We were afraid the ramp would collapse,” said Scott. “I can’t wait to see the Veterans next week in the meeting. I’m very happy and glad that you have helped us.”

The NPBF committee selected the following organizations and their community projects:
- San Juan County Partnership: Opioid Overdose Prevention
- Chinle Chapter: Community Basketball Court
- San Juan Soil & Water Conservation District: New Beginnings Community Garden
- Tohatchi Community Chapter: Nakai Recreational Park
- Indian Wells Chapter: Veteran Building Handicap Accessibility Ramp
- Healing Circle Drop-In Center: Achieving Success Through Traditions and Technology

NAPI’s goal with the NPBF is to support local community projects that provide long-term sustainable benefits. The projects must demonstrate that they will eventually become self-sustaining or will continue to provide benefits to the community after completion.

Carl Roessel Slater Elected, Takes Navajo Nation Council Delegate Oath


Delegate Slater was elected at a special election carried out by the Navajo Election Administration on September 24, 2019 upon the retirement of Delegate Nelson S. Begay.

Navajo Nation Supreme Court Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne administered the oath for Delegate Slater Thursday morning after the Navajo Board of Election Supervisors acted to certify the special election results.

Delegate Slater thanked those in attendance after taking the oath and shared a statement of gratitude to the Chapters he represents.

Delegate Slater’s maternal clan is Kinyaa’aanii, his paternal clan is Sq’i Dine’é, his maternal grandfather is Sq’i Dine’é, and his paternal grandfather is Sq’i Dine’é. Delegate Slater’s mother is Faith Roessel and his father is Matthew Slater. His maternal grandparents are the late Ruth and Robert Roessel of Round Rock, Arizona. His paternal grandparents are the late Ruth and Carl Slater of New Rochelle, New York.

“We are honored to have Delegate Slater alongside us on the floor of the Navajo Nation Council,” said Speaker Seth Damon. “The five Chapter communities Delegate Slater represents can continue to be confident that their voice is being heard at Council.”

“On behalf of the Nez-Lizer Administration, we congratulate Council Delegate Carl Slater and we wish him well as he takes on the challenge of serving his communities. We look forward to working together with Delegate Slater and all of the Council members,” said President Jonathan Nez.

Speaker Damon expressed appreciation, on behalf of the 24th Navajo Nation Council, to the five chapters, the Navajo Board of Election Supervisors, the Navajo Election Administration and the Office of Hearings and Appeals for their work in carrying out the special election.

Delegate Slater will serve on the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee and the Navajo Community Development Financial Institution and Síhásin Subcommittees.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, Delegate Slater participated in the Naabik’íyáti’ Committee meeting the same day and cast his first vote as Navajo Nation Council Delegate.

The 24th Navajo Nation Council is the legislative body of the Navajo Nation and is comprised of 24 Council Delegates representing 24 voting districts across a total of 110 local Chapter communities.


President Nez reports on energy development initiatives to the Resources and Development Committee

WINDOW ROCK – On Tuesday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez presented a report to the 24th Navajo Nation Council’s Resources and Development Committee in Window Rock, regarding energy development initiatives including renewable energy projects, the establishment of a new energy office, assets at the Navajo Generating Station site, and more.

In April, President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer issued the “Navajo Háyoolkáał (“Sunrise”) Proclamation,” which states that the Nez-Lizer Administration will pursue and prioritize renewable energy development for the long-term benefit of the Navajo people.

In addition, the proclamation created the Háyoolkáał Work Group to focus on energy initiatives and other issues. The work group is comprised of officials from the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Economic Development, Division of Community Development, Navajo Nation Washington Office, and the Office of the President and Vice President.

President Nez stated that the Nez-Lizer Administration continues to receive inquiries and proposals, particularly from potential developers who want to construct renewable energy projects on the Navajo Nation. The Háyoolkáał Work Group continues to meet on a regular basis to hear proposals from potential developers, but the work group is not making any commitments or agreements.

During the report, President Nez was joined by Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Dr. Rudy Shebala and Administrative Services Officer Michelle Henry, who reported that the Nation has until Dec. 23, 2019 to determine how 500 megawatts of transmission line capacity will be used. The transmission line capacity is part of several NGS assets that will be transferred to the Nation upon the closure of the power plant.

“We need to move on it quickly and make a decision so that we can benefit from the 500 megawatts. That’s why we have the Háyoolkáał Work Group evaluating and vetting potential projects,” said President Nez.

In regards to a new energy office, President Nez thanked the Council members for supporting approximately $664,000 in the FY2020 Comprehensive Budget to establish the office under the Division of Natural Resources to serve as the “clearinghouse” for energy development and initiatives. He also reported that the Office of the President and Vice President will contribute an additional $100,000 for the new office.

In the state of New Mexico, President Nez said the Nation is in the process of selecting a developer to construct the Paragon Bisti Ranch solar project in the Navajo community of Huerfano, which will be partially funded by the $2 million that was appropriated by New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham earlier this year.

President Nez said that he agrees with the members of the Resources and Development Committee that communication between the Executive and Legislative Branches would benefit the process of moving energy initiatives forward on a path to completion.

“Through the practice of working together, we can make the Navajo Nation a giant force in the renewable energy market,” said President Nez.

He also urged the Resources and Development Committee members to move forward with addressing Legislation No. 0073-19, which seeks to change the Navajo Nation Energy Policy and establish the membership of an energy task force – the bill was referred to the Resources and Development Committee by the Navajo Nation Council in July.

Several division directors from the Nez-Lizer Administration provided updates including Division of Economic Development Executive Director JT Willie who updated the committee on the decommissioning of NGS, Division of Community Development Executive Director Dr. Pearl Yellowman regarding community outreach efforts, Navajo Nation Department of Justice Attorney April Quinn regarding the shutdown of Kayenta Mine, and Navajo-Hopi Land Commission Office Executive Director Robert K. Black on the Paragon Bisti Ranch solar project.

Proposals would dam Little Colorado River for hydropower

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) – The Little Colorado River cuts across the northeast corner of Arizona, emptying its waters into the much-larger Colorado River after a more than 330-mile journey.

Few people wander in the remote region where it crosses the Navajo Nation, aside from river rafters traveling through the Grand Canyon, tribal members and occasional hikers.

That solitude in a lonely stretch of desert would be pierced by workers, roads and possibly more tourists if a long-term plan by a recently formed Phoenix-based company that wants to put in dams for power generation comes to fruition.

The proposals are reigniting the same concerns brought up years ago with a failed plan to build a gondola to ferry people into the Grand Canyon on the Navajo reservation: protecting tribal sacred sites, endangered fish and serenity.

Pumped Hydro Storage LLC is seeking approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for preliminary permits to study the sites east of Grand Canyon National Park over three years. None of it will move forward without permission from the Navajo Nation.


Children, Residents Receive Pumpkin Donations

SAINT MICHAELS, Ariz. – Oct. 7, 2019 – Pumpkins were delivered Monday, October 7, to the children and residents of the Saint Michaels Association for Special Education and the children of the Hogan Hozhoni children’s home in Saint Michaels.

The pumpkins were part of a donation to area organizations that provide care services to those with special needs or are separated from their parents.


Three miles of Blue Canyon Road bladed, graded by NDOT

BLUE CANYON, Ariz. – The Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT) recently performed road maintenance to approximately three miles of Navajo Route 9053, also known as Blue Canyon Road, within the Fort Defiance Chapter.

The scope of work includes 3.1 miles of blading, sub-grade and drainage work. NDOT Road Maintenance crews will also lay four-inches of aggregate base course and soil stabilizer over a one-mile segment of the road to improve the profile.

“We’ve prioritized an area toward the top of Blue Canyon Road for gravel and soil stabilization,” said Garret Silversmith, Executive Director of NDOT. “With the winter months ahead of us, it’s important to reinforce the surface of this particular road.”

N9053 is a school bus route with a high average daily traffic count, according to NDOT.

Fort Defiance Chapter Manager Lorraine Nelson said her community is happy to see the improvements being made.

“We’re concerned about this road especially for the kids,” she said. “We’re thankful for the work being done.”


Referral Request(s) for Adolescents (Male & Female) for Treatment Center

Janice K. Martinez, Case Management Specialist for Adolescent Treatment Center at the Navajo Regional Behavioral Health Center under the Division Of Behavioral & Mental Health Services in Shiprock, New Mexico is asking for referrals for their treatment program.

The Adolescent Treatment Center is available to children, 13-17 years old for potential clienteles from the Navajo Nation. They are seeking adolescents to become part of their healing circle and begin a journey toward a healthy lifestyle. Services provided is through various Western/Traditional Treatment Modalities, which best meet their needs. Implementation of treatment is evidence-based with full support throughout the treatment process.

To receive copies of the brochure and referral packet, please contact:

janice.martinez@nndoh.org
Ph: (505) 368-1438/1462
Email is preferred.
## Administrative Service Centers

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For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM’s website at [http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html](http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html)

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**COMIC OF THE MONTH**

![Comic Strip Image](https://example.com/comic.png)

**Inspirational Quote of the Month**

You cannot wake a person who is pretending to be asleep.

*Navajo Proverb*
October 2019

PHOENIX — The voting rights of Native Americans in Arizona are routinely suppressed by a slew of requirements and practices, such as photo ID laws and a scarcity of polling places, Navajo and Gila River leaders said Oct. 1 at a congressional hearing in Phoenix.

“If someone from the Navajo Nation submits a ballot on Election Day without a photo ID, they have to go through so much additional documentation for their vote to be counted,” said Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez.

Nez and Stephen Lewis, governor of the Gila River Indian Community, also told members of the House subcommittee on elections that voting information often is in English, which doesn’t help speakers of Native languages.

At the hearing at Phoenix College, leaders said a proposed Native American Voting Rights Act could ease some of the burdens by removing the requirement for photo ID, adding translators for Native speakers, being less restrictive with mail-in ballots and opening more polling places.

The number of polls in Arizona has dropped by the hundreds since 2013, when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down parts of the federal Voting Rights Act, including oversight of election laws in Arizona and eight other states.

Thirteen of Arizona’s 15 counties have closed polling locations since 2013, according to Rep. Marcia Fudge, D-Ohio, who chairs the subcommittee on elections.

Arizona had 400 polling locations in 2005; today, it has only 60, said Darrell Hill, Arizona’s policy director for the American Civil Liberties Union.

The subcommittee heard from the community on election issues that affect voting rights, especially of underserved communities in Maricopa County and elsewhere in Arizona. Native Americans and other people of color, people with disabilities and low-income voters are effectively being disenfranchised, advocates said.


“I think it’s unfortunate our tribal leadership was not reached out to. When important decisions like this are made at the state Capitol that affect Native Americans, nobody thought to ask for the opinions of our tribal leaders, and that is exactly why the voting rights act was and is so important,” Stanton said.

Obstacles to voting

Lewis said Election Day is treated as a family tradition for Native Americans in Arizona. It is an opportunity for families to catch up on politics and demonstrate to their young ones why voting is important.

Nez said mail-in ballots don’t have the same restrictions as voting in person.

“If you vote early by mail, all you need is your signature,” he said.

But Native Americans living in rural areas face a slew of obstacles, whether with mail-in ballots or voting in person.

“Tribal cards do not include addresses, do not have standard county addresses, and many tribal members do not receive mail at their homes,” Nez said. “Sometimes up to five families have to share a single P.O. Box.”

Mail can get lost on its way to a reservation, and ballots are rarely translated into indigenous languages, which more than half of Native Americans in Arizona speak, according to Patricia Ferguson-Bohnee, director of the Indian Legal Clinic at Arizona State University.

Often, roads on reservations where Arizona’s 21 federally recognized tribes live are poorly maintained, Nez and Lewis told lawmakers. Delays are common and mail-pickup times are unreliable.

Also, more than half of tribal lands don’t have internet access, according to a study cited by Ferguson-Bohnee.

Voting in-person also presents problems.

Voters often travel more than 60 miles over poor roads to reach the polls, according to Nez and Lewis.

“There is no public transportation here on the reservations. In some parts of the Navajo Nation, only one in 10 families owns a vehicle,” Nez said.

READ MORE AT: http://bit.ly/35To1Jg
Halloween: Oct. 31, 2019
RELEASE NUMBER CB19-FF.08  •  SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Dating back 2,000 years to the Celtic festival of Samhain, Halloween is an ancient tradition associated with images of witches, ghosts and vampires. Today, Halloween has evolved into a celebration characterized by child-friendly activities like trick-or-treating, carving pumpkins into jack-o’-lanterns, and dressing in costumes.

The following facts are made possible by the invaluable responses to the U.S. Census Bureau’s surveys. We appreciate the public’s cooperation as we continuously measure America’s people, places and economy.

**Trick or Treat!**

41.1 million
The estimated number of potential trick-or-treaters in 2018 — children ages 5 to 14.
Source: American Fact Finder 2018 Population Estimates, Table PEPASR6H

122.4 million
The number of potential stops for trick-or-treaters to occupied housing units for the 2nd quarter of 2019.
Source: Housing Vacancies and Homeownership, Table 8

59.1 million
The number of housing units where trick-or-treaters had to climb steps in order to fill their bags full of candy in 2017.
Source: 2017 American Housing Survey

16.4%
The percentage of U.S. households who think their neighborhood has a lot of petty crime.
Source: 2017 American Housing Survey

READ MORE AT: [https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2019/halloween.html](https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2019/halloween.html)
A HISTORY OF CENSUS PRIVACY PROTECTIONS

Today's law is clear: The Census Bureau must keep responses completely confidential. It cannot release identifiable information about an individual, household or business to anyone, including other government or law enforcement agencies.

It wasn't always that way. Public attitudes on privacy have changed since the first census in 1790. Early laws and policies focused on preventing direct disclosure of personal information. Later, laws and policies addressed the growing threat of indirect disclosure—the risk that someone might be able to figure out the identity of a person or business just by analyzing the statistics we publish.

Twenty-first century privacy threats—faster and more powerful computers, new data science, and exponential growth in personal data available online—demand new safeguards to protect against indirect disclosure.

See how the laws and protections have changed from 1790 to the 2020 Census— the first census to use advanced disclosure protection techniques based on the new data science known as “differential privacy.”

To learn more search “Disclosure Avoidance” at census.gov.
Windows 7 support will end on January 14, 2020

Windows 7 support lifecycle
Microsoft will discontinue Windows 7 support so that they can focus their investment on supporting newer technologies and great new experiences. After January 14th, 2020, technical assistance and software updates from Windows Update that help protect your PC will no longer be available for the product.

What that means to you is it's important that you should upgrade to a modern operating system such as Windows 10, which can provide the latest security updates to help keep you and your data safer. Microsoft will also no longer provide Windows 7 technical support.

Recommendations are to move to a new device with Windows 10. Newer PC's are faster, lightweight and more secure. A newer machine will provide more security and less headache about utilizing software and devices and services that are currently available.

As an alternative, compatible Windows 7 PCs can be upgraded by purchasing and installing a full version of Windows 10 which is $139 for home versions and $199 for the Professional version. Remember, it is recommended you don't install Windows 10 on an older device as some Windows 7 devices are not compatible and could experience reduced feature availability. If you continue to use Windows 7 after support has ended, your PC will still work, but it will become more vulnerable to security risks and viruses.

For existing software on your Windows 7 - Microsoft recommends doing a fresh installation of your software and apps from your official Windows 10 Microsoft Store site. Some older software may not have an updated version that's compatible with Windows 10. For any software not currently available in Microsoft Store, we recommend going to that company's official website and downloading the Windows 10 version from the website.

READ More on - https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/4057281/windows-7-support-will-end-on-january-14-2020
The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

NEWSLETTER TEAM:
Norbert Nez, Editor
Denise Copeland, Assistant Editor
Sylvia Jordan, Contributing Writer
Tiauna Begay, Reporter/Contributing Writer