

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Division of Community Development Newsletter

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Did You Know..

Késhmish is Navajo for Christmas. Késhmish will often refer to the time surrounding Christmas only - descriptive in the same sense that a milepost marks distance on a road. So one may use Késhmish in regular speech, without implying that he or she is of any particular faith or belief.

<https://navajoword.com/word/keshmish/>

Events:

December: Níłchitsoh - "abundance of cold air"

December 24: Christmas Eve

December 25: Christmas

December 26: Kwanzaa

December 31: New Year's Eve

January: 1: New Year's Day

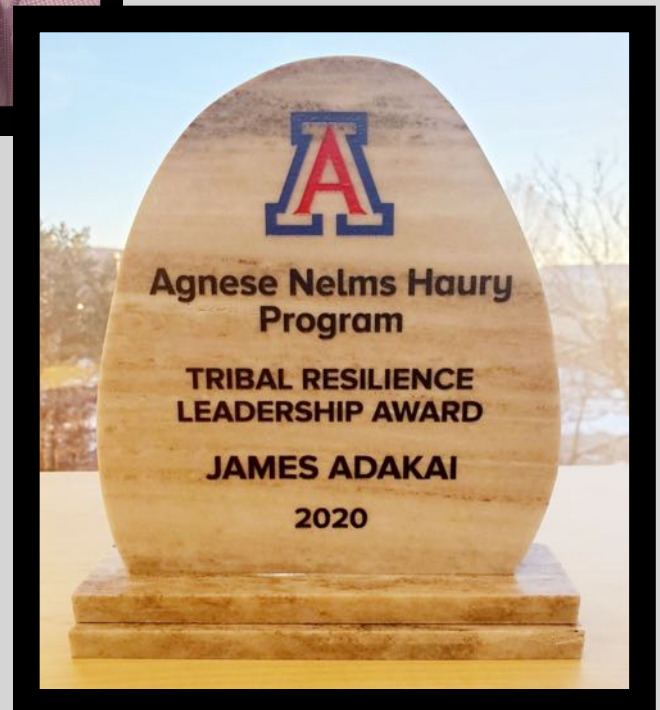
January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20: Inauguration Day

James Adakai and Captain David Harvey Receive the Agnese Nelms Haury 2020 Tribal Resilience Leadership Award



On November 24, 2020, the Agnese Nelms Haury Program presented the Tribal Resilience Leadership Award to Mr. James Adakai, Navajo Nation Capital Projects Management Department and Captain David Harvey, Indian Health Service. They are the inaugural recipients of the Agnese Nelms Haury Tribal Resilience Leadership Award.



December 2020

The annual award was established in 2020 to recognize exceptional contributions to the promotion of Tribal Resilience. The focus of the award is exemplary leadership displayed to assure Native and Indigenous communities have access to safe water.

The Haury Program and its Donor Advised Fund Board provided this award to Mr. Adakai and Captain David Harvey to recognize their joint outstanding leadership of the Water Access Coordination Group (WACG), and the heroic, collaborative and effective work it has performed to complete the mission of constructing transitional water sites on the Navajo Nation and providing culturally respectful communication about the location and use of these sites during the COVID-19 crisis.

The Haury Program considers "it a great privilege to be part of this team, and to bring wider recognition of the work to the world. As you know, we believe the WACG is a model of respectful tribal engagement and of genuine partnerships that can promote the water goals of the Navajo Nation."

Mr. Adakai thanked all the others that have worked on the Water Access project saying the he was "proud of all people who took part in contributions to this cause We now have a significant number of Navajo families to have access to clean water through transitional watering points during COVID-19 crisis.

I thank the leadership of Dr. Pearl Yellowman and the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President for giving me the opportunity to be part of this monumental task and being able to achieve it together for the benefit of Navajo people.."

Mr. Adakai is grateful for the award from the Agnese Nelms Haury Program in Environmental and Social Justice.



<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1b4dc0d978c74d97a559e615730d4cd4>

Congratulations Mr. Adakai and Captain Harvey on your awards!!

Thank you for all your hard work on behalf of the Navajo People!

DCD AND NECA PROVIDE BATHROOM ADDITIONS TO OVER 70 FAMILIES ON THE NATION



In July of 2020, the Division of Community Development (DCD) was provided \$3.5 Million in CARES Act funds and was tasked with providing bathroom additions to families throughout Navajo. Using data originally provided by the Indian Health Service (IHS), DCD worked closely with the Navajo Engineering Construction Authority (NECA) to mobilize staff that would conduct over 100 bathroom addition assessments in just 2-3 weeks that would help identify the families who would be serviced by the December 30, 2020 CARES Act funding deadline. The focus of the assessments was on clustered recipients that were closer together to increase the efficiency of completing as many bathrooms as possible in the limited amount of time that was available.

NECA's construction crews started mobilizing to the verified bathroom addition recipients during the last week of August and have been working continuously to complete the construction of 73 bathroom additions in just 4 months. The bathrooms consist of a standard design that is 5' wide x 12' in length and includes a bathtub or shower, toilet, sink, heater, and lighting. The bathrooms have been added to primary residence structures with a priority on recipients who are either elderly or disabled.

Due to the lack of basic water and electrical infrastructure in the remote areas of the bathroom recipients, the majority of the homes are also receiving supplemental infrastructure to include cisterns, septic systems, and solar power in order to have a fully functional bathroom with running water. The supplemental infrastructure items are provided with additional CARES Act funding through the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA).





These efforts are a beginning to address the critical needs for families to defend themselves against the threat of COVID-19. There remains a widespread need for families that do not have running water and electricity that could not be helped under this project. If additional funding and time were more available, both DCD and NECA have a database of assessments that identifies some of the additional families who qualify for the bathroom additions and are in need of these critical services.



DCD Hard at Work on Chapter Distributions

DCD staff have been hard at work over the past few weeks at the various storage facilities established for storing all the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other supplies purchased by the Office of the Controller and their consultants, Baker Tilly using the CARES funds for the Chapter Distribution project. There are two major storage locations, one in Gamerco and one at the Window Rock fairgrounds. The temporary storage facility at the fairgrounds needed to be set up and put into operation. That was completed on December 5.

SUPPLIES	TRUCKS	PALLETS
Water	143	2718
Gatorade	22	462
PPE	43	877
Food	32	665
Sanitation	183	3684
Senior	17	369
Blankets and Handwarmers	18	385
TOTAL	458	9160

Delivery trucks have started to come in and staff are busy unloading and sorting all the supplies that are coming in, using the chapters' needs assessments as a guide to see how many supplies and which kinds would be going to the chapters. All water and all bleach have been delivered so far. DCD will be responsible for ensuring that the supplies are delivered to the chapters.

SUMMARY OF SUPPLIES ORDERED FOR CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION

The Gamerco warehouse will be used for storing all the water supplies. Gorman hall will be used to store all the bleach supplies. The large temporary storage tents will be used to store all the other supplies. Everything in bulk purchases will be distributed out of the fairground distribution headquarters.

There are three security guards stationed at the fairgrounds making sure the supplies are secure. There is also another security guard stationed at the Gamerco warehouse.

The Office of the Controller also contracted with two partners, PM2 and DSSI, to help manage the logistics of the initial deliveries, sorting, storage, and security. PM2 will manage the warehouses and DSSI will provide support for scheduling trucks and keeping the supply flow going smoothly. PM2 is managing the hiring of Navajo laborers who will work as part of the sorting team at the warehouses. Deliveries will be coming in every day and some deliveries will be coming in on Saturday and Sunday.



GAMERCO STORAGE SITE (EXTERNAL)



WR Fair Grounds Distribution Tent - (from left, Sandra Anderson; Lakota Jordan, Delilah Bill, Lorenzo Long) CARES Temp Staff



GORMAN HALL STORAGE SITE

December 2020



**PLANNED TRUCK DELIVERIES AT FAIRGROUNDS
TEMPORARY STORAGE FACILITIES**

**TRUCK DELIVERY PATH AT WINDOW ROCK
FAIRGROUNDS**



WINDOW ROCK FAIRGROUNDS STORAGE SITES

The sorting process will begin as soon as more of the items to be sorted arrive.

Since the storage facilities at the fairgrounds take up quite a bit of space, special traffic rules are being followed. All regular traffic enters at the rodeo contestant gate and all traffic exits at the north gate similar to what they do during the Navajo Nation Fair.

For the large trucks, traffic enters by the old U.S. Census Bureau office going one way to the exit gate.

Chapter Distribution delivery operations will begin on December 28th with the first semi-trucks to deliver water first to certain chapters that are ready to accept semi-trucks to their chapter complex.

Deliveries will be scheduled with appointments and coordinated in advance by each ASC/SPPS. ASC staff will continue to identify which chapters are ready for a semi-truck delivery. This will be done first to make space in the temporary storage tents.

CHID staff will be coordinating the semi-trucks with each SPPS once the trucks are confirmed. Water, gatorade, and bleach will be shipped out first.



DCD DELIVERY DRIVERS

On the front line: Diné scientist working toward cure for COVID-19



CHINLE -- Kristina Gonzales-Wartz could have been a poster child for why there are so few Natives in the STEM fields.

In tiny Sweetwater, Arizona, where she grew up, she had no scientist role models.

Her high school, Red Mesa High, didn't even offer chemistry or physics. She had to start with remedial classes when she went to college. Her bachelor's ended up being in American Indian studies.

But there she is now, on the front line of biomedical research, working on a cure for COVID-19.

You could say she is a poster child for resilience.

"I always knew I was drawn to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields," she said in a telephone interview from her home in Rockville, Maryland, where she's a laboratory technician and manager at the Antibody Biology Unit of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health.

"I certainly never imagined I'd go this far," she said.

Her lab was actually working on other things when COVID hit.

"We switched gears a little bit," said Wartz.

Wartz and her colleagues start with plasma taken from people who have recovered from COVID-19 (the "convalescent plasma" you may have read about).

"We then identify which antibodies they produced that link to SARS Coronavirus-19," she explained.

The hope is an antibody "cocktail" can be administered to COVID patients to help them fight the disease. It's still in the research and development stages but has been used by volunteer patients around the country, including President Donald Trump, with promising results.

Antibodies may also be used in vaccines, Gonzales-Wartz said.

Talking to her today, Gonzales-Wartz sounds like a confident young leader. But when she first came to the NIH on an internship-type program from New Mexico State University two years ago, still working on her doctorate in biology, "it was terrifying," she said.

Once she got down to the research, "it was so engaging," she said. "I'm a person who likes learning new things, and I was learning new techniques every day."

It's been a long road for Gonzales-Wartz. She started out at little North Idaho College in Coeur D'Alene, where she said she was told by a recruiter she would be on the volleyball team.

"I got up there and the coach didn't even know who I was," she recalled. "I think they just wanted to get more Native students there."

Homesick and discouraged by having to take the remedial science courses, she lasted through the school year before transferring to Columbia Basin College in Pasco, Washington, where she did get to play volleyball and earned her associate's in general studies.

She then entered Haskell Indian Nations University and completed a bachelor's in American Indian studies before heading to NMSU for graduate work.

"I didn't really start taking much science until I was in grad school," she said.

But it had always been in the back of her mind to be a scientist. In junior high, she had taken a distance learning class sponsored by NASA. In high school biology, she was one of the few kids who didn't get grossed out by dissecting animals.

"I thought it was fascinating," she said. "I've always been very inquisitive, so I had the build for science, I guess you could say."

Knowing she was behind some of her peers who had been in science all along, she jumped at every opportunity for enrichment.

She was part of the Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement, which introduced her to the NIH.

She then applied for an Intramural NIAID Research Opportunities position, starting out with a group looking for a substitute for blood to be fed to mosquitoes for research purposes (<https://navajotimes.com/ae/people/bloodless-coup/>).

In May of this year, as COVID cases hit their peak on the Navajo Nation, she transitioned into a full-fledged lab technician with the antibody unit.

At 33, Gonzales-Wartz, who is and , has found her calling.

Her husband and two sons (soon to be three, she revealed during the interview) moved with her to Rockville and are adjusting fine, she said.

Her husband found a job installing solar applications, so both spouses are engaged in making the world a better place.

Eventually, she would like to move back to the reservation, if she could find a job that utilized her skills.

"At this point, there aren't any research labs on the Navajo Nation, so I would have to be in Phoenix or Albuquerque where they have national laboratories," she said. "But at least I'd be closer to home."

Gonzales-Wartz said her family has supported her every step of the way, and her mother, Laverne Gonzales, seconded that.

"I am so proud of the choices she's made in life and becoming such a successful young woman," Gonzales said. "I often remind her to thank her extended family for their support, prayers, teachings, encouragements, etc."

Gonzales-Wartz's advice for other young Natives interested in furthering their education might come as a surprise to the bookish set: Take up a sport.

Red Mesa may not have offered all the science courses, but it had a full slate of girls' sports teams. Gonzales-Wartz played volleyball, basketball and softball.

"I can honestly say most of what I know about handling success and failure, about keeping going when you feel like giving up, I learned on the volleyball court," she said.

It's important to have diversity in science, she said, "because we all come from different backgrounds and we have different ways of thinking.

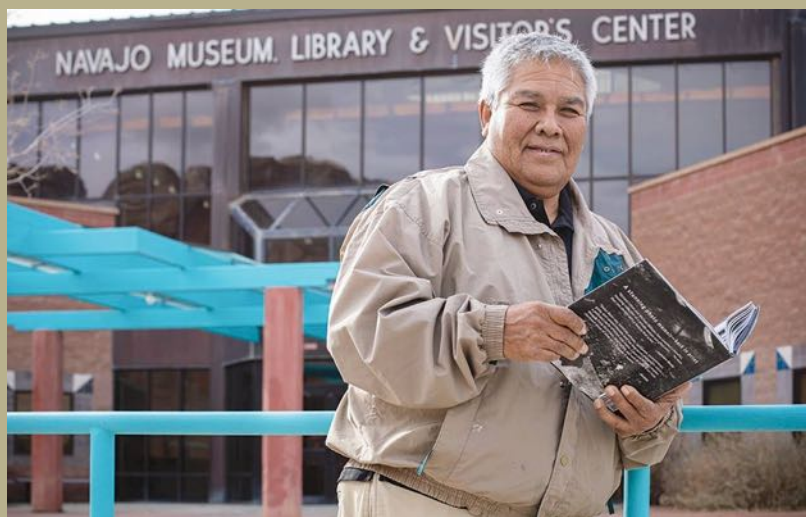
"We have a better chance of solving a problem when we look at it from a lot of different perspectives."

And how's the view from the front lines of the battle against the virus? Gonzales-Wartz sees a cure in the near future.

"There's so many people working on this right now, a lot of very smart people," she said. "I know we will come up with something soon."

Read at: <https://navajotimes.com/ae/people/on-the-front-line-dine-scientist-working-toward-cure-for-covid-19/>

Nation's top librarian turns the page on an epic chapter



WINDOW ROCK -- If you were to make a list of the world's most exciting careers, "librarian" probably wouldn't even make the top 100. But in Irving Nelson's 43-year stint with the Navajo Nation Library, he's battled poisonous spiders, spent hours in an asbestos-ridden basement, walked miles in a blizzard and taken epic cross-country road trips just so you and the rest of the Navajo public can have something good to read.

Nelson, director of the Navajo Nation Library, is "trying" to retire at 61, but the COVID-related government closure is getting in the way of processing his paperwork. In a plot twist worthy of O. Henry, this lifelong bookworm is losing his eyesight to glaucoma and macular degeneration. "It's getting so even driving home from Window Rock to Rock Springs is an adventure, especially if it's dark," he sighed.

But what a legacy he has left his people.

Lifelong love

Nelson, who is Kin Yaa'aanii born for Dzil't'ahnii, can't remember a time he didn't love books. As a student at John F. Kennedy Elementary, living in the Gallup dormitory, he eagerly awaited the weekly visit of English teacher Thomas Kirby, who would unlock the library and let the kids run rampant. Young Irving was one of his best customers, snatching up three or four books a week.

His favorites were the Louis L'Amour westerns. Books were his ticket out of the sometimes dreary dormitory life. "Reading was a way to transport myself to another world, another time, another dimension," he recalled.

So it seemed only natural, when he turned 18 and graduated from Gallup High, to apply for a job driving the Navajo Nation's only bookmobile. "We provided books to all 110 chapters," Nelson recalled.

It was a big job, and all those miles must have taken a toll on the vehicle, because only about a year later, in January of 1978, the bookmobile broke down somewhere near Jeddito, Arizona. It was snowing hard and freezing cold. Nelson and his partner, the late Franklin Ayze, had to hitchhike back to Window Rock with only one jacket between them.

"We kept trading off wearing the jacket," Nelson recalled with a chuckle. "We finally caught a ride in Steamboat. But it was in the back of a truck so we still couldn't get warm."

The bookmobile proved to be beyond repair. But Nelson had proved his mettle. They changed his title to "library technician," and let him type the card catalog cards. (If you don't know what a card catalog is, ask the nearest Baby Boomer. It's all true.) "All I did was type all day long," Nelson recalled.

Later the system graduated to microfiche (again, ask a Boomer), which was almost worse. "You'd have to search through hundreds of microfiche to find a title," Nelson said. It's starting to make sense that he's losing his eyesight.

Promoted at 27

In 1986, then-library director Barbara Baum resigned. At the dewy age of 27, Nelson found himself the first Diné director of the Navajo Nation Library. And he's been there ever since. "There" being a variety of places.

The first Navajo Nation Library was in the basement of the Window Rock Recreation Hall. It was infested with black widow spiders, and, perhaps more dangerous, crisscrossed with steam pipes wrapped in about a foot of asbestos. "It scares me to this day when I think about it," he confessed.

There were only 5,000 volumes, divided into children's literature, adult fiction, non-fiction, and along the back wall, an incipient collection of books by and about Native Americans.

The unpleasantness of the place notwithstanding, the Navajo people loved their library – maybe because it was the only one for miles. "We were always pretty busy," Nelson recalled. In his off-hours, he took library science classes at the University of New Mexico-Gallup, trying to bring his education up to match his title.

Eventually, the research portion of the library was moved to the bottom floor of the Education Building, and in 1990, after the recreation hall was condemned, all the books were moved there. It was a lot more pleasant, but the collection was beginning to outgrow its space.

In 1992, construction started on the Navajo Nation Museum, which was planned to house the library as well. Nelson remembers the triumphant day the new library opened its doors: Halloween of 1997. "We had 11,000 books," he said. "It was virtually empty."

Filling the shelves

Nelson and his staff set out to fill the shelves. Using the tribe's Native American Library Services grant, Nelson and a staffer would road-trip 36 hours straight to Washington, D.C., in a U-Haul to pick up the tribe's allocation of books, turn around and tag-team another 24 hours to overnight in Oklahoma, then be back in Window Rock the next day.

Later they partnered with Goodwill Industries International in Annapolis, Maryland. "The very last trip I made, the other driver didn't show up," Nelson recalled. "I had to do the whole trip myself. I remember it was May and very hot ... the U-Haul didn't have air conditioning. But I was a young man then. I certainly wouldn't try it now."

Now the library partners with Reader to Reader in Hartford, Connecticut, and someone flies out, rents a van and brings the books back. It's less heroic but much safer.

But the things Nelson is most proud of in his four-decade career don't involve risking his personal safety. As with any nonprofit government entity, the real battles are for the funding to do the important work that laymen find too obscure to care about.

Points of pride

After begging the Navajo Nation Council for 20 years, Nelson finally obtained the \$190,000 he needed to digitize the Office of Navajo Economic Opportunity Collection. These were film recordings taken in the 1960s of medicine men and other wisdom keepers. "The collection was 50 years old and I was terrified the tapes would disintegrate," he said. Library staffers finally finished that project two weeks ago.

Nelson also digitized the entire 60 years of the Navajo Times, which involved tracking down the very first issue, which had gone missing. "We had two copies, both encased in Mylar and both encapsulated with a tracking tape, and they still walked off," he said. "I finally located a digital copy."

The fact that the library even still had copies of the Times was something of a coup. "At one time, I believe it was in 1979, I went before the Navajo Nation Council's Advisory Committee to request funding to better preserve our collection of the Times," he recalled. "They shooed me out the door — at that time the Times was running some unflattering articles about the Navajo Nation government."

"Before I left I was given a directive by one of the committee members to destroy all the library's copies of the Times," he said. "I said, 'Yes sir,' but I never did it. I knew I could lose my job if they found out, but I also knew that, as a librarian, I would never destroy an important historical document."

Years later, the former committee member came into the library asking to see a certain issue of the Times.

"I said, 'Sir, you directed me to get rid of the Navajo Times, and that's what I did,'" Nelson recounted. "He got a sad face and started to walk out. I felt sorry for him and said, 'Sir, come back here. I'm afraid I never followed your order.'"

"Before he left he said, 'I'm so glad you didn't follow my order.'"

Playing a part

Libraries are beloved by those who read for pleasure and a necessity for students researching term papers, but we sometimes forget that they are also repositories for documents that provide the basis for important legal claims.

During the tribal government chaos of 1989, when the Navajo Nation Council put its chairman, Peter MacDonald, on administrative leave and he refused to step down, the Navajo Nation Department of Justice was frantically searching for documentation to see who held the authority in such a case.

"They looked at ASU, UofA, NAU, UNM, they couldn't find anything," Nelson recalled. "Finally they came in the library and I directed them to the Land Claims Collection."

This was 32 filing cabinets of every legal document the tribe has to support its claim to its land base and sovereignty.

"From documents they found in the collection, they were able to determine that the ultimate authority resides with the Council," Nelson said. "From there they were able to develop the three-branch government which laid out the division of power."

"I sincerely believe our library was instrumental in reforming the Navajo Nation government." That collection remains to be digitized — a project for the next library director, Nelson says. But during his tenure, he has watched the library grow from 5,000 volumes in a musty basement to over 100,000 in an inviting, well-lit space, with a branch in Kayenta as well.

The next chapter

It's a good time to hand over the reins, if the darned virus will let him. At the moment the building is closed for deep cleaning and, like millions of Americans, Nelson is working from home.

And what does the next chapter hold for Irving Nelson? The main thing he wants to do, as soon as it's safe to travel, is get his wife back. She was visiting family in Canada when COVID hit and hasn't been allowed to travel back to the States. "I haven't seen her since January," he lamented. "I miss her terribly."

The man who spent most of his life between his job in Window Rock and his home 20 minutes away in Rock Springs now wants to see the world while his eyes are still able.

Of course, books will still be in his life. And no audiobooks for this lover of the printed word, at least not yet. "As long as I can keep enlarging the font on my Kindle," Nelson professed, "I'll keep reading."

READ MORE AT: <https://navajotimes.com/ae/people/nations-top-librarian-turns-the-page-on-an-epic-chapter/>

CWC Alum Goes Far with Passion for Renewable Energy

Jayne Sandoval has a bit of a travel bug.

Originally from Ute Pass Valley on the Navajo reservation in northern Arizona, she completed internships all over the United States as an undergrad at Northern Arizona University (NAU) and even spent a year studying at Shantou University, in China's Guangdong province. Sandoval graduated from NAU in May with a double major in mechanical engineering and comparative cultural studies. This fall, she'll begin a Master of Science in energy engineering at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan through the Fulbright Scholar Program.

Sandoval enters her master's program with two important advantages: One, thanks to her year in China, she speaks some Chinese, and two, she already has several years of energy experience under her belt, including her work in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Collegiate Wind Competition (CWC).

Sandoval joined CWC's Team NAU for the 2020 competition as part of the capstone coursework for her engineering major. She focused on the Project Development contest and used the wind farm siting software Openwind to determine the impact Team NAU's wind project design would have on local wildlife.

In fact, Sandoval credits her work in the CWC with helping her land the internship she'll complete this summer before she leaves for Taiwan.

As part of their research for Team NAU's Project Development plan, Sandoval and her teammates attended a permitting forum for a local wind farm. At the forum, Sandoval met the permitting manager at sPower, an independent power producer based in Salt Lake City. Later, NAU ran a story about Sandoval's accomplishments, which the local news station picked up. Shortly after that, the permitting manager at sPower offered her a summer internship.

"He emphasized my participation in the CWC as a reason for them to hire me, because I already had experience designing wind projects and especially with the permitting process," Sandoval said.

During her internship, Sandoval assisted with the wind and solar development permitting process on the Navajo reservation—a project she was particularly excited for because she knew it would enhance energy options in a region where many homes lack access to basic amenities.



JAYNE SANDOVAL, WHO GRADUATED FROM NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY LAST SPRING, CREDITS HER PARTICIPATION IN THE 2020 COLLEGIATE WIND COMPETITION WITH HELPING HER LAND A SUMMER INTERNSHIP WITH SPOWER, AN INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCER. IMAGE: JAYNE SANDOVAL



SANDOVAL WILL BUILD ON THE KNOWLEDGE SHE GAINED FROM CWC WHEN SHE BEGINS HER MASTER'S PROGRAM IN ENERGY ENGINEERING IN TAIWAN THIS FALL. IMAGE: JAYNE SANDOVAL

"With everything going on right now, the Navajo Nation would probably be in better shape if we had resources like electricity and running water," said Sandoval. "It's hard to bring those resources to homes on the reservation using existing infrastructure because of the cost, which is where renewable energy can help. But wind projects haven't really been done on the reservation, and the Navajo Nation is a sovereign state, which means their permitting process is a challenge. I think the experience I got from the CWC and my connection to the reservation helped."

As the summer draws to a close, Sandoval is looking forward to her next adventure—the start of her master's program in Taiwan. She's excited to not only deepen her knowledge of renewable energy but to become more fluent in Chinese as well.

"Getting accepted [to this program] felt like everything had lined up perfectly," she said. "I already speak some Chinese, and this program is dedicated to renewable energy engineering. It goes into so many things that I want to learn, mostly so I can bring that knowledge back home. Knowing the impact I'll be able to make is really exciting. And the cultural component is really important, too."

Much as Sandoval loves to travel, all this globe-trotting eventually leads back home. When she finishes her master's program, she hopes to continue working in wind energy, ideally at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, which facilitates the CWC on behalf of DOE. Ultimately, Sandoval wants to build knowledge and connections that she can use to help improve quality of life on the Navajo reservation.

Her advice for anyone interested in a career in renewable energy? Just get involved.

"Renewable energy is a newer field and there's still a lot to learn about it," she said. "The more people there are working in renewable energy, the faster we can develop technology that will save the world."

READ MORE AT: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/collegiatewindcompetition/articles/cwc-alum-goes-far-passion-renewable-energy>

The FCC, 2.5 GHz Spectrum, And The Tribal Priority Window:

Something Positive Amid The COVID-19 Pandemic

Wed, Dec 9th 2020 12:03pm – James E. Dunstan

Never has “necessity is the mother of invention” rung more true than in trying to get high speed broadband to Native Americans. Long on the other side of the “digital divide,” Tribes have struggled to attract traditional carriers to provide service on their reservations, where population densities are low, poverty rates are high, and a Byzantine array of federal, state, and Tribal regulations related to rights-of-way stall or derail deployment efforts. In a dramatic mid-pandemic paradigm shift, Native Americans are becoming the early adopters of a promising wireless technology – the 2.5 GHz band.

The FCC’s 2010 National Broadband Plan identified, and attempted to quantify, for the first time, the digital divide in Indian Country. The FCC has taken significant positive steps to close the digital divide, but most of those steps have involved tweaks around the edges. A heightened Tribal variable in the High Cost program helps provide slightly more money to carriers. Reverse-style auctions in the Tribal Mobility Fund and upcoming Rural Development Opportunity Fund (RDOF) help carriers deploy to the next cheapest areas (since funds are awarded to the carrier seeking the lowest amount of support), but don’t really address how to get broadband deep into the heart of rural America (or rural Tribal lands).

When the FCC decided to overhaul the underutilized 2.5 GHz Educational Broadband Service (EBS) in 2019, it turned to an approach long-advocated in Indian Country – a Tribal Priority on the spectrum. (I was fortunate to have been involved with helping push for the Broadcast Tribal Priority in 2008.) Used only once before, in the broadcast service, FCC Chairman Pai went far out on a limb to propose giving Tribes first dibs on any unused spectrum. The Broadcast Tribal Priority has been something less than a success, with fewer than a dozen AM and FM stations awarded to Tribes under the program over the past decade.

The FCC set a relatively short window for filing applications, yet 457 applications were filed, representing the vast majority of the 574 federally recognized Tribes, and virtually all Tribes that have reservations that are not in urban areas.

Meanwhile, while the FCC considers the pending applications, the agency “doubled down” on the “Tribal window” by allowing Tribes to receive special temporary authority (STAs) to utilize the spectrum. The FCC granted the Navajo Nation an STA for the largest single reservation – to provide students with broadband access during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Navajo Nation put together a unique and diverse team in order to deploy the 2.5 GHz spectrum quickly. Navajo Technical University (NTU) is the lead on the project, working with local carrier Sacred Wind Communications and MuralNet, an outside consultant. The team leveraged a National Science Foundation Award (#1827199 “Nilch Bee Naa Alkaa Go Ohooa Doo Eidii Tii (Using Air (Technology) to Learn and Understand New Things”)) for backhaul and quickly began deploying 2.5 GHz equipment around its Crownpoint, NM, campus, to provide free service to college students.

Early data indicate that the 2.5 GHz spectrum is performing well above theoretical predictions, even on the topographically diverse Navajo Nation. Students who previously had no affordable and reliable broadband service because the total lack of wireline infrastructure can now continue their studies from home. Those relatively close to the towers where 2.5 GHz spectrum antennas are deployed are enjoying 25 Mbps download and 6 Mbps upload speeds. One student lives more than four miles away, and not within line-of-site of the tower, yet is still getting consistent speeds of 8 Mbps down and 10 Mbps up. And that’s with first-generation gear, sure to improve as the 2.5 GHz spectrum is further developed and deployed.

But most important, students are getting access to broadband now, during the pandemic, when they need it most. Instead of Navajos having to wait years for carriers to deploy new technologies first in urban areas and then ever so slowly into more rural areas, Tribes get to jump to the “front of the line” with 2.5 GHz spectrum. For once, Tribes get to be early-adopters.

If ever there was a win-win-win story in these bleak times, the 2.5 GHz spectrum is it. FCC Commissioners were willing to take the risk of providing spectrum directly to Tribes now, instead of just auctioning it off to the highest bidders sometime in 2021. The FCC staff then moved swiftly to grant the STAs needed to begin deployment. And Tribes responded by leveraging all the assets they could come up with to provide broadband to their students, many of whom had been in continued lockdown since March. We should congratulate everyone in this virtuous cycle. It’s a model to which the FCC, and the entire federal government, should look. Get assets into the hands of those at the local level who can make use of them most quickly, and watch what happens when those with the most need, and most “skin in the game” have a seat at the table.

Oh, and the icing on the regulatory cake? Pilot projects such as that on the Navajo Nation are clearing the path for future deployment of this spectrum. Indeed, the value of the remaining 2.5 GHz spectrum which goes up for auction next year, may well increase significantly based on these test cases, netting the federal government more money than if they’d held back the spectrum and auctioned it off without any real understanding of its technical capabilities. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is a true return on investment!

James E. Dunstan is General Counsel to TechFreedom. In his private practice at Mobius Legal Group, PLLC, he represents the Navajo Nation in matters before the FCC

READ MORE AT: <https://www.techdirt.com/blog/greenhouse/>



Creating water out of thin air in the Navajo Nation

The tribe's water scarcity is a bigger issue during the COVID-19 pandemic, when people have to wash their hands and sanitize more frequently.



By Molly Wood, Marketplace Tech, December 4, 2020

The West is in a drought that's only getting worse, and drought is an even bigger problem in places that have uneven access to water to start with. In the Navajo Nation, in the southwestern U.S., many homes have no running water at all. The tribe is working with the startup Source, which makes Hydropanels — solar-powered panels that pull water vapor from the air and condense it into clean drinking water.

I spoke with Milton Tso, president of the Cameron chapter in the Navajo Nation, where one family got Source panels this summer. He described the water they make. The following is an edited transcript of our conversation.

A photo of Milton Tso, president of the Cameron Chapter in the Navajo Nation.

Milton Tso (Photo courtesy of Tso)

Milton Tso: When I was a child, when we went out hunting for small game, my grandfather, when the storm went through, you would have craters in the sandstone that held water. We used to bend over and drink the water out of these craters, and it was pure rainwater. When I first tasted [Hydropanel] water, I just flashed back to that part of my memory. So that's what the water tastes like. It's just really clean and pure water. Like it came from the rain.

Molly Wood: And is it the one family in Cameron that has them right now?

Tso: Right now, yeah. People that don't have running water, some of them have to drive an hour and a half one way to town to get drinking water. People say, "Well, water is not expensive." Sure, if you have access to the store, it's around the corner, yes. But for us, the reality is that just going to the town of Flagstaff [in Arizona], you're spending maybe \$50 on gas and other things, when you go buy water in town. A case of bottled water [is] actually costing you around \$60, \$80.

Wood: How often do people have to go? Can you estimate how much a month that might cost, and how much somebody is, maybe this one household, is saving with the Hydropanels?

Tso: I would think they would go probably three days out of the week to get water. But we also have folks that still rely on their livestock — sheep, cattle, horses — so they're running almost daily to haul water.

Wood: More broadly, when you look at bringing infrastructure to Cameron and the Navajo Nation — Hydropanels but also renewable energy, new electric grids — do you feel hopeful that the reservation has a chance to maybe create a new vision of energy and water that isn't so destructive?

Tso: One of the things about climate change, also, is that we get more sunlight now. And I think the tribe itself has a lot of interest in renewable energy. And this energy developed in our community in Cameron could be sold to California and surrounding states. At the same time, we also would like [a] smaller scale of solar energy to homes that are off the grid. That way, we don't have to run more wires on our land, which is such an eyesore to me. There's a price you pay, and that price is not only going to be coming out of your pocket, but are you willing to sacrifice the beauty of the land to get power?

Wood: I mean, do you think that can become a model for the rest of the country and other parts of the world?

Tso: I always tell people that are interested in trying something new in Cameron: "We're willing to try it here. Be the first. If it works here, it'll work anywhere."

Related links: More insight from Molly Wood

First, a little more information about these panels and the Navajo Nation. They're not cheap. A two-panel system costs about \$6,000 to install. Grants helped the tribe install panels on 17 homes across the entire Navajo Nation. But Source said it's working with the tribe to install panels on 500 more homes. The

installations are part of the tribe's COVID-19 response because the pandemic has made the water scarcity problem even worse because people need so much more water for hand-washing and sanitation.

For more on the tech behind these panels, I interviewed Source CEO Cody Friesen last year, back when the company was called Zero Mass Water. In September, the company changed its name, obviously, but also re-incorporated as a public benefit corporation. It's still a for-profit company, but with a public good at its source. Last June, the company raised an additional \$50 million in venture funding from, among others, Bill Gates' Breakthrough Energy Ventures.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.marketplace.org/shows/marketplace-tech/creating-water-out-of-thin-air-in-the-navajo-nation/>



A PHOTO OF MILTON TSO, PRESIDENT OF THE CAMERON CHAPTER IN THE NAVAJO NATION. (PHOTO COURTESY OF TSO)



SOURCE'S HYDROPANELS BRING CLEAN DRINKING WATER TO THE NAVAJO NATION. (PHOTO COURTESY OF SOURCE)

To'Hajiilee President, WALH laud water deal



I-40 WEST: EXIT 131 - TO'HAJIILEE (CC BY-SA 2.0) BY FORMULANONE

After two years of planning and months of negotiations, the Navajo community of To'Hajiilee announced an agreement that will deliver much-needed water to residents.

Mark Begay, president of the To'Hajiilee chapter of the Navajo Nation, called the settlement a historic occasion.

"I am a Marine Corps veteran, and it's only fitting that this agreement came on Veterans Day," Begay said during a virtual press conference Friday afternoon. "I'm overwhelmed with emotions: joy, happiness."

To'Hajiilee, located 20 miles west of Albuquerque, is home to roughly 2,500 residents who all rely on just one supply well, which pumps water up from the Rio Puerco aquifer. The water levels in the aquifer have dropped in recent decades, and what water that's left is filled with corrosive dissolved solids that eat through the pump equipment and wreak havoc on the indoor plumbing systems of the residents in To'Hajiilee.

The Navajo Nation owns rights to surface water that could be piped into To'Hajiilee and serve the community. To'Hajiilee and the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) have already devised a project plan to build a pipeline that would transport the water from a holding tank in the county's far western boundaries to To'Hajiilee.

The Navajo Nation needed to acquire easements across four parcels of private land to complete the project. Negotiations between the Nation and one property owner, Western Albuquerque Land Holdings (WALH), turned sour earlier this year when the company suggested that the To'Hajiilee community wanted access to water to open a casino.

State Senator Daniel Ivey-Soto, D-Albuquerque, who was brought in to help negotiate an agreement between the Navajo Nation and WALH as a third party, called the deal a "success story."

"It is, I think, unfathomable that anybody in the United States of America should not have access to reliable, potable drinking water—and particularly for one of our Indigenous communities here within the boundaries of Bernalillo County, not to have access to potable water is a humanitarian tragedy," Ivey-Soto said.

But Ivey-Soto mentioned that not all the issues had been ironed out yet.

"We are near [an] agreement with everybody on all issues," he said. "There is one last little issue that they are resolving but they're thinking that they will be able to have a finalized agreement by, by early next week."

"Western Albuquerque Land Holdings and the Navajo Nation have come to the agreement with regard to not only the use of land for traversing the water, but also for—along with the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority—the use of the water [infrastructure]," Ivey-Soto said, referring to pump stations and pipelines. "It looks like at this point we have the agreements in place so that all the barriers have been removed."

Jeff Garrett, president of Garrett Development Corporation of Arizona, which represents WALH, said he is "excited to see the water move from Bernalillo County to To'Hajiilee."

"We're here to help our neighbors and our friends at To'Hajiilee," Garrett said.

U.S. Rep. Deb Haaland, who represents the state's 1st Congressional District covering Albuquerque, also applauded the deal.

"Every community deserves clean water for drinking, cooking, and to maintain their health, but To'Hajiilee didn't have access to water in their community," Haaland said in a statement. "Now, the To'Hajiilee Chapter of the Navajo Nation can look forward to clean, potable water."

READ MORE AT: <https://nmpoliticalreport.com/2020/11/13/tohajiilee-president-walh-laud-water-deal/>

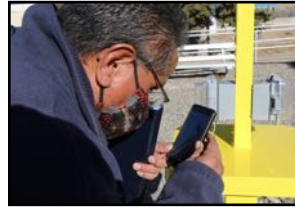
Bulletin Board

Nenahnezad Chapter goes solar with new charging station

Noel Lyn Smith - Farmington Daily Times



NENAHNEZAD — A crew working to situate a solar-powered charging station moved the unit back and forth while trying to position it in front of the Nenahnezad Chapter house.



Arthur Bavaro, the chapter's community services coordinator, said the station will serve two purposes.

The first is providing space for residents to charge their mobile devices, like cellphones, without having to enter the chapter house, he said.

Secondly, it will teach the community about solar power, he explained before plugging in his cellphone for a charge.

"It's small scale but you know, Thomas Edison started with a light bulb and now Las Vegas is lit. We would like to use this as a springboard for what solar power can do," Bavaro said.

The unit was built and installed by Analytical Technologies Inc. after Bavaro approached the Farmington-based company about bringing the device to the chapter house. "He wanted to give them an outlet out here that they can utilize," Aaron Eldridge, the company's vice president, said. "The world is driven by microdevices. That's what we use all the time," Analytical Technologies CEO Kendall Augustine said.

It is common behavior for people to charge their cellphones overnight, but depending on daytime activity, most batteries do not last all day, Augustine said.

Keeping devices in service, especially in places like Nenahnezad, is where the charging station can help, he added.

Eldridge and Augustine worked on the station's design over the summer, then manufactured it using locally sourced materials.

The off-grid system uses a 180-watt solar panel and a battery for storage. It can accommodate up to eight devices through its USB-A connection.

"If there was a mass gathering and there was no solar input and it was just running off the battery, it could charge about 40 cellphones," Eldridge said.

This is the first unit the company has installed at a chapter house, although they have done other solar energy projects on the Navajo Nation.

Nenahnezad Chapter used a grant from the Arizona Public Service Company Foundation to pay for the station, Bavaro said.

Read At: <https://bit.ly/3mAsCye>

President Nez and Vice President Lizer congratulate new U.S. Senator Mark Kelly



MARK KELLY WAS SWORN INTO THE U.S. SENATE ON DEC 2 | COURTNEY PEDROZA/GETTY IMAGES

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. - Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulate newly-elected U.S. Senator for the state of Arizona, Mark Kelly, who was sworn-in on the Senate floor in Washington D.C. on Wednesday.

"Congratulations to Senator Kelly and his family on this special day. The Navajo Nation looks forward to working together with Senator Kelly and his office in the coming years. I also want to recognize and thank former Senator Martha McSally for her service to the people of Arizona. I am excited to work with Senator Kelly and continuing to build a strong working relationship that benefits the Navajo people and all citizens of Arizona," said President Nez.

Senator Kelly was elected to office during a special election held on Nov. 3. He will serve the remainder of late Senator John McCain's term through 2022. Former Senator McSally was appointed to serve until the special election was held.

"We are confident that Senator Kelly will be an advocate for the rural communities of Native Americans in Arizona. I look forward to working with Senator Kelly. Our office will continue to yearn for partnership between two Nations, as the goal is to advance our Native People to be welcomed into the 21st century," said Vice President Lizer.

President Nez has previously met with Senator Kelly and provided an overview of the Navajo Nation priorities related to the former Bennett Freeze area, water rights, infrastructure development, economic initiatives, and other issues related to the Navajo Nation.

The 56-year-old former NASA astronaut was joined by his wife Gabby Giffords, who is a former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and their two daughters for the swearing-in ceremony at the U.S. Capitol.

Read more at: <https://www.navajo-nsn.gov/News%20Releases/OPVP/2020/Dec/FOR%20IMMEDIATE%20RELEASE%20-%20President%20Nez%20and%20Vice%20President%20Lizer%20congratulate%20new%20US%20Senator%20Mark%20Kelly.pdf>

Bulletin Board

Navajo Area IHS completes distribution of first allocation of Pfizer vaccines to health care centers

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Tuesday, the Navajo Area Indian Health Service completed the delivery and distribution of its first allocation of 3,900 Pfizer vaccines for COVID-19 have been delivered to all health care facilities, including health care clinics on the Navajo Nation.

The Navajo Nation opted to have the Navajo Area IHS oversee the distribution of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, with the exception of the Utah Navajo Health System, which opted to work with the state of Utah for distribution. The Utah Navajo Health System reported that the vaccines will be delivered later this month, in accordance with its agreement with the state. Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez visited the Chinle Health Care Facility and met with key public health officials, including those on the frontlines helping COVID-19 patients, as the facility received more doses of the Pfizer vaccine. Health officials reported that they began the process of administering the vaccine to health care workers on Monday. More vaccines were also delivered to Northern Navajo Medical Center in Shiprock, N.M., Kayenta Health Care Center, Tuba City Regional Health Care Center, and several other smaller health care facilities.

“The arrival of the Pfizer vaccine is a blessing for all of our people, including the doctors, nurses, and many other health care warriors who are helping and treating all of our people who come in with COVID-19 symptoms and those who are fighting for their lives. We are complying with the advice and recommendations of the public health experts, the CDC, when it comes to how the vaccine is being distributed and administered. I truly appreciate all of the health care workers who are dedicating themselves to fight COVID-19 and save lives,” said President Nez.

President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer also hosted an online town hall as they were joined by Major General John F. King, who is the Commander of Contingency Command Post 1 and Task Force 51 for U.S. Army North, Chinle Health Care Facility’s Chief Medical Officer Dr. Eric Ritchie, Director of Public Health Dr. Jill Moses, and Internal Medicine Specialist Dr. Puthieri Va.

Native Medicine Coordinator Roland Begay, who was the very first health care worker at the facility to receive the Pfizer vaccine on Monday. He spoke about the lessons we have learned since the start of the pandemic and encouraged everyone to evaluate their priorities before deciding whether or not to get the vaccine and to continue keeping their guard up.

“It was an opportunity when I was asked the question – was I willing to and what I thought about it. I said well, it’s been in the plan, people talk about it globally, and I said it’s here. What are we going to do, just look at it? That’s what it’s for, to save lives. People should ask themselves what their priorities are,” said Begay. “Just because this vaccine is here doesn’t mean we stop and put our masks away. Nine months ago, we weren’t ready, but as time moved on, we learned and adapted. The choice is yours and it’s in your hands.

Read more at: <https://bit.ly/37xJCKw>



Navajo program distributes reservation coal to heat tribal homes

BY ALLEN H. AWFE | CRONKITE NEWS | DECEMBER 8, 2020 AT 4:05 AM

WASHINGTON – For decades, coal from the Navajo Nation helped deliver water and helped power homes and businesses throughout Arizona and the Southwest.

Now, some of that coal is being used to heat Navajo homes as well. For the fifth straight year, the Community Heating Resource Program (CHRP) is helping Navajo residents stay warm through fall and winter months by distributing coal for free from the Navajo Mine – one ton at a time.

The program kicked off this year on Oct. 28 and will continue through spring. It was formally established by Navajo Transitional Energy Co., which owns the mine in Fruitland, N.M., in 2016.

“We’ve probably provided over 18,000 tons of coal to Navajo families,” since 2016, said Cortasha Upshaw, the mine’s community affairs coordinator, who also oversees the program. She said “about 8,900 tons of coal” were distributed last winter alone.

Under the program, NTEC distributes tickets – each redeemable for one ton of coal – to the Navajo Nation’s participating local governments, or chapters, in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. Chapter officials then decide how to distribute the tickets among community members, Upshaw said.

The number of tickets a chapter gets is based on its population. Participation is not required, but Upshaw said “94 of the 110 Navajo Nation chapters are enrolled in the program” this year, and that all but one chapter was enrolled in 2019.

Coal has long provided jobs on the Navajo Nation but has not always had the best reputation, with several coal-fired power plants in the region routinely listed among the worst producers of greenhouse gas emissions. But Nicole Horseherder, director of the environmental advocacy group Tó Nizhóní Aní, applauds the free coal program.

“You can’t compare what’s happening when Navajo Mine decides to deliver heating fuel to Navajo families who live out in the countryside, who don’t have any other way of heating their home,” Horseherder said. “This is different than when APS or SRP (Salt River Project) comes in and burns so many millions of tons.”

She said the Navajo Nation lost a huge source of heat when the Navajo Generating Station in Page closed last year, which also meant the closure of the nearby Kayenta Mine that fueled the power plant. The CHRP is helping to pick up the slack.

“I don’t see anything wrong with that,” said Horseherder, whose organization works to preserve the responsible use of land and water resources.

Upshaw said that when Kayenta was operating, it would sell coal to the tribe’s chapters in Arizona for “around \$65 to \$75” a ton. With Kayenta closed, she said, Navajo Mine absorbed those chapters into CHRP and waived any coal costs for community members.

READ MORE AT: <https://ktar.com/story/3735798/navajo-program-distributes-reservation-coal-to-heat-tribal-homes/>

Bulletin Board

NTUA Choice Wireless constructs two more towers dedicated to improving cell phone and internet access for families, students, and first responders using CARES Act funds

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Thursday, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, Council Delegate Vince James, Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission Office Executive Director Christopher Becenti, NTUA Choice Wireless Deputy Director Velena Tsosie, and NTUA officials marked the completion and installation of a new NTUA Choice Wireless tower in the summit east area located west of St. Michaels, Ariz., which will provide increased cell phone and internet access to Navajo families, students, and first responders. Another tower located in Woodsprings, near Sawmill, Ariz., has also been completed.

The new towers were funded with a \$32 million CARES Act allocation approved by the 24th Navajo Nation Council and signed into law by President Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer on Aug. 16, which funded several more towers projects on the Navajo Nation in Pinedale, Beclabito, Tsaile/Wheatfields, and Chinle. Once funds became available in late August, NTUA and other partners expedited the construction of the new tower to meet the federal CARES Act deadline.

“This is another great milestone for the Navajo Nation, NTUA Choice Wireless, and all of the residents, first responders, and many others who will benefit. When we first students and employees doing their school work and duties online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this provides another great tool to help many of them. We know there is a great need for these services in many other communities. On behalf of the Navajo people, I thank NTUA and many others for expediting these projects during this pandemic,” said President Nez.

On Oct. 9, the Nez-Lizer Administration approved an additional \$15 million in CARES Act funds to provide more internet access, which was part of a legislation that also approved \$90 million for the Nation’s 110 chapters to help respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“NTUA has built great momentum and they [hav]e been working around the clock to complete a variety of infrastructure projects. This week, they also reported that 528 homes have been connected to the electric grid using CARES Act funds. They are also working on water cistern projects, water stations, and other initiatives that provide benefits for many years to our people,” Vice President Lizer stated.

Council Delegate Vince James, who represents the summit east area as a member of the 24th Navajo Nation Council, commended his Council colleagues, President Nez, and NTUA Choice Wireless, and community members for their support for the project that will provide long-term benefits for many.

NNTRC Office Executive Director Christopher Becenti was also in attendance and spoke about the Navajo Nation’s efforts to increase telecommunications infrastructure and to secure additional spectrum capacity in the near future through the Federal Communications Commission.

“This is a significant milestone for our community here in summit east. We have a major highway that goes through the summit. This tower will alleviate years of connectivity issues and struggles for local residents, who can now rely on it for work and communications,” said NTUA Choice Wireless Deputy Director Velena Tsosie.

NTUA Choice Wireless is also working with contractors to finish another tower in the community of Beclabito, N.M., which is scheduled to be completed soon. The Nez-Lizer Administration thanks all of the NTUA employees and contractors for their hard work and dedication during the COVID-19 pandemic.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3rhETLE>

‘Water warrior’ featured on soda bottle

CHINLE -- This Jones soda label featuring “Water Warrior” Zoel Zhonnie will be out in January.

Ironically, there are many times over the summer when Zoel Zhonnie and his crew of “Water Warriors” delivering water to needy families around the reservation could have used something cold to drink.

You work up a thirst delivering firewood too, which is the latest endeavor of his nonprofit, Collective Medicine.

Well, he’s about to get his own soda bottle. We don’t mean, like, one bottle of soda – 50,000 bottles. An image of Zhonnie delivering water will grace 50,000 bottles of Jones Soda Co.’s green apple soda starting next month. They’ll be sold throughout the country. Zhonnie 42, Táchíinii born for Tl’izi Lani, was chosen for the company’s “Unsung Heroes” series of labels.

Aficionados of Jones, which bills itself “the original craft soda,” know that you buy the drink as much for the label as the contents. The company solicits ever-changing designs from its consumers.

But lately, with all the turmoil in the world, it decided to use its labels to make a difference, explained Vice President of Marketing Maisie Antoniello. “We consider ourselves the people’s craft soda,” said Antoniello. “So we thought, why not use our labels as a platform for good?”

As the coronavirus took hold this past spring, the theme for the labels was “Messages of Hope.” As the election heated up, Jones started its “Vote 2020” series, encouraging its customers to vote by featuring a QR code that led to a voter registration information site.

“After the election, we were wondering, ‘What next?’” explained Antoniello. “We decided on Unsung Heroes because there are so many positive stories out there of people helping others during the pandemic.”

Zhonnie was not a regular customer of Jones Soda, he confessed. “I think I had it four years ago,” he said. But the co-founder of Collective Medicine, Pam Arthur, is a fan. It was she who submitted several photos of the Water Warriors United and their story. They chose the one of Zhonnie with an elder from Sweetwater, but Arthur said the photo really represents all the Water Warriors.

“I just fell in love with the story,” said Antoniello.

Zhonnie, reached, as usual, in his truck while hauling wood to an elder as part of Collective Medicine’s new “Sasquatch Fellowship,” said it “feels good to be recognized,” but he hopes more that it brings attention to Collective Medicine and the plight of the Navajo people.

“Maybe it will inspire someone clear across the country to donate, who knows?” said Zhonnie. It did inspire him to seek out a bottle of Jones soda. “It’s really good,” he declared.

Meanwhile, Collective Medicine doesn’t have a lot of time to rest on its laurels and drink soda. The mission to serve the isolated and chronically underserved continues.

And local and national donors are reaching out to help. Home Depot coughed up a wood splitter and \$5,000 in cash for the Sasquatch Fellowship; Diné actor Tatanka Means, upon hearing someone stole two flatbed trailers from Water Warriors, donated a replacement (through some serious sleuthing, the group was able to find one of the stolen trailers and retrieve it).

“Between water and wood, we’ve been steadily busy,” said Zhonnie. The current problem is to try to find some economical way to keep the water barrels they donated to homebound elders from freezing so they don’t burst and can be refilled, so there’s a project for any unemployed engineers out there.

To date, Water Warriors United has delivered close to 300,000 gallons of water and the Sasquatch Fellowship has dropped off 24 tons of firewood, much of it gleaned from Forest Service thinning projects and families who had cut down trees and needed the wood hauled away.

If you’d like to help out, they can always use volunteers. Who knows? Maybe someday you’ll be on a soda bottle.

Information: gallery.jonessoda.com, collectivemedicine.net. Jones soda can be purchased at Kroger grocery stores and online.

READ MORE AT: <https://navajotimes.com/ae/community/water-warrior-featured-on-soda-bottle/>



Bulletin Board

Coppermine receive New Backhoe with Sihasin Funds

A new Deere SL 310 backhoe was delivered on Monday, December 14, 2020, to the Coppermine Chapter. The backhoe was purchase with Navajo Nation Sihasin Funds in the amount of \$100,000.



The Coppermine Chapter worked with Elmer Johnson, CPMD Project Manager, and CPMD Staff to purchase heavy equipment.

The Delivery followed the Navajo Nation COVID-19 guidelines and policies including social distancing

and the use of masks during the delivery.

Congratulations to Coppermine Chapter!

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez applauds historic moment as Deb Haaland selected to lead the Department of the Interior under the Biden-Harris Administration



WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez stated that he is overjoyed about the Biden-Harris transition team’s selection of Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-N.M.), to serve as the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior when the Biden-Harris Administration takes office in January. The New Mexico Congresswoman will be the very first Native American in history to serve in high-level position.

“It is truly a historic and unprecedented day for all Indigenous people as Congresswoman Deb Haaland has been selected to head one of the largest federal agencies, which oversees the BIA and BIE, at the highest level of the federal government. I congratulate her and I also thank the Biden-Harris team for making a statement and keeping their word to place Native Americans in high-level cabinet positions. I am looking forward to continuing to work with Congresswoman Haaland and the Biden-Harris Administration in the years to come,” said President Nez.

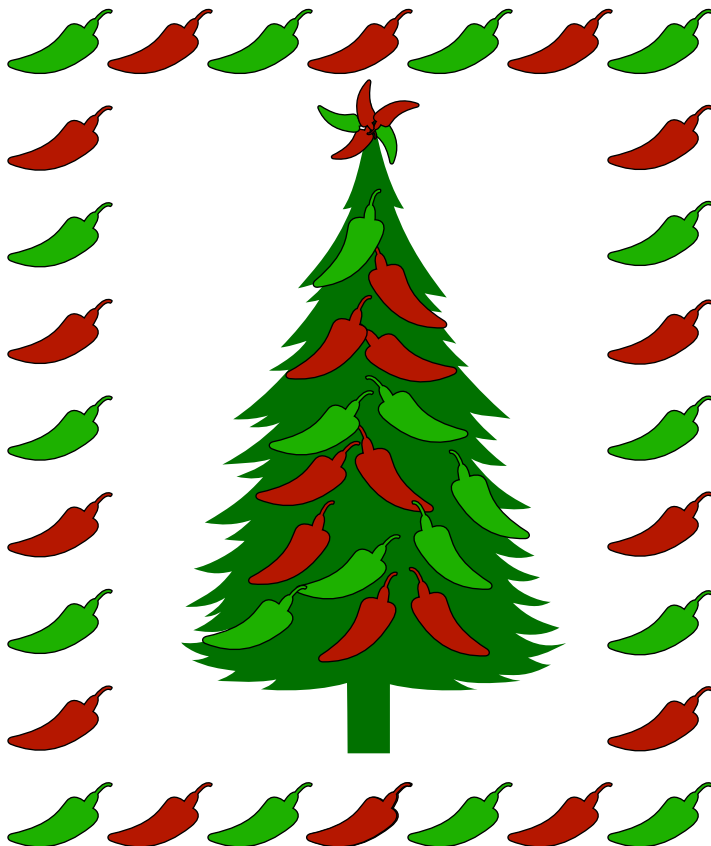
In November, President Nez publicly stated his support for Congresswoman Haaland to serve as the next Interior Secretary stating, “As a member of Congress, she has been a strong voice for all tribal nations and the people of New Mexico on a wide variety of issues including land management, clean energy, economic development, social justice, and job creation. Her advocacy for equality and justice has never wavered and continues to grow stronger. Her ability to weigh the issues from social, economic, and political standpoints is unique and something that is not easily found.”

President Nez added that Haaland’s unique background and experiences, dedication, and commitment to public service are exactly what is needed at the helm of the Department of the Interior, especially for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education.

“We need a person like Congresswoman Haaland to lead the Department of the Interior to build a stronger relationship between the federal government and tribal nations,” stated President Nez in November.

“The appointment of Deb Haaland is not only be historic, but it also sends a clear message to all tribes and people across America that the Biden-Harris Administration is committed to addressing the wrongs of the past and clearing a path for real change and opportunity for tribal nations,” added President Nez.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3r8xgqx>



PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
Administrative Service Centers			
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Lake, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Klagetoh, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Crystal, NM	25,854.40	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Rock Springs, NM	36,462.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Black Mesa, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Hardrock, AZ	36,462.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Forest Lake, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Alamo, NM	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Becenti, NM	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Mesa, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Valley, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Kaibeto, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Canyon, AZ	25,854.40	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	25,854.40	OUF

(OUF) Open Until Filled

(S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check)

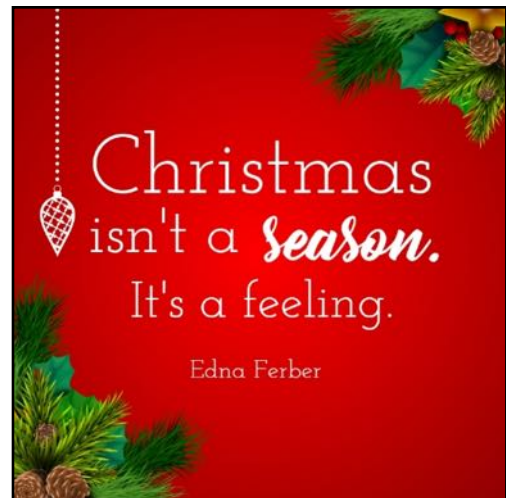
Closing Dates may change due temporary reduction in non-essential Navajo Nation government services

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at <http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html>

Comic of the Month



Inspirational Quote of the Month



Navajo Nation Census Information Center News

Census Estimates U.S. Population As High As 336 Million Ahead Of Actual Count

December 15, 2020 1:47 PM ET

By HANSI LO WANG

It's still not clear when the U.S. Census Bureau will release the first results from the 2020 census.

But when it does, the bureau estimates the count may show that the U.S. population has grown by as much as 8.7% since the 2010 census, which produced a count of 308.7 million people.

If the Demographic Analysis estimates released by the bureau on Tuesday are proved out in the official numbers, it would be the slowest rate of growth the U.S. has seen since the 1940 census. That national head count showed a 7.3% population increase during the 1930s, which was marked by lingering effects of the Great Depression.

The bureau estimates the number of people living in the country as of this year's Census Day, April 1, could fall within the range of 330.7 million to 335.5 million.

The bureau uses the estimates, as well as other quality indicators, to try to determine the accuracy of each census after the results are released. By putting out estimates now as benchmarks, the agency is trying to allow the public to "come to their own conclusions" about the bureau's work, Karen Battle, chief of the bureau's population division, explained during a press conference Tuesday.

The figures from Demographic Analysis are based primarily on birth and death certificates, Medicare enrollment files and other government records – unlike the census, which relies mainly on household responses to a questionnaire.

People who died from COVID-19 before April 1 were taken into account when the bureau worked on the estimates, said Eric Jensen, the bureau's senior technical expert for Demographic Analysis. The team that produced the estimates used monthly data about deaths from the National Center for Health Statistics.

"There weren't a lot of COVID deaths relative to what we see later in the year, but we did include COVID deaths in our estimates," Jensen said during Tuesday's briefing, noting that the bureau took extra steps to reflect the coronavirus pandemic's impact.

The 2020 census does not count U.S. residents who died this year before Census Day, but it does include people who died on or after April 1, according to the bureau's residence criteria.

These estimates do not affect each state's share of congressional seats, Electoral College votes or more than \$1.5 trillion a year in federal money for public services.

But in a tumultuous year that saw the constitutionally mandated tally disrupted by the pandemic, historic hurricane and wildfire seasons and last-minute schedule changes by the Trump administration, any indicator of the count's precision is receiving intense scrutiny from census watchers.

One of the bureau's most pressing challenges right now is trying to resolve irregularities in this year's census records, which if left unfixed, could leave millions of people miscounted.

A particular concern among census watchers is whether the bureau has been able to count every resident once, only once, and in the right place, an often repeated goal of the bureau that carries major implications for the redrawing of voting districts, social science and public health research and policymaking that rely on census results.

The answer, however, won't be found in the bureau's Demographic Analysis estimates, which only provide a national-level look and do not give breakdowns by state or local community.

In fact, the Census Scientific Advisory Committee, one of the bureau's two panels of outside experts focusing on the 2020 census, warned in its recommendations to the agency last month that "the final 2020 Census results may be close to the Demographic Analysis numbers, and still many people could be counted in the wrong place, double counted, or not counted at all."

The bureau is currently conducting the Post-Enumeration Survey – a sort of mini-census involving fewer than 200,000 households – to determine how the 2020 census may have miscounted the country's population.

But the first results of that survey, also hindered by COVID-19, are not scheduled for release until November 2021.

In the meantime, a task force assembled by the American Statistical Association – which includes former Census Bureau directors and members of President-elect Joe Biden's transition agency review team for the Commerce Department, which oversees the Census Bureau – has been calling for the bureau to release additional quality indicators about this year's count.

In response, the bureau announced this month it's planning to release more quality metrics and allow independent experts to compare them with the census results in early 2021.

But exactly when that will happen in the new year remains an open question.

The timing of the results' release has become entangled with President Trump's push to make an unprecedented change that would leave unauthorized immigrants out of the numbers used to reallocate the 435 seats in the House of Representatives as well as votes in the next Electoral College. The Constitution requires the count to include the "whole number of persons in each state."

The Supreme Court has been reviewing a lower court ruling that has blocked that Trump memo, and despite the administration urging the justices to release a decision soon, the high court did not do so on Monday, its last scheduled day for releasing rulings this year.

After ending counting early, the administration has been pressuring the bureau to shorten the timeline for quality checks to try to deliver the first set of census results before the end of Trump's term on Jan. 20.

But the bureau has been on track to miss the Dec. 31 legal reporting deadline for months, and there's a chance that by the time it finishes putting together the numbers, Biden will be in the White House.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2020/aian-month.html>

Toys for the Holidays

Total **sales, value of shipments, or revenue** for hobby, toy, and game **stores** in the United States*



Total **sales, value of shipments, or revenue** for dolls, toys, and game **manufacturing** in the United States*



Total **value of U.S. imports** of toys, games, and sports equipment**



Total **value of U.S. exports** of toys, games, and sports equipment**



*According to the Annual Business Survey
**According to USA Trade Online

Festive Names

Selected Places With Festive Names in the United States





Navajo Nation Dikos Ntsaaígíí-19 (COVID-19)



Last Updated: December 22, 2020

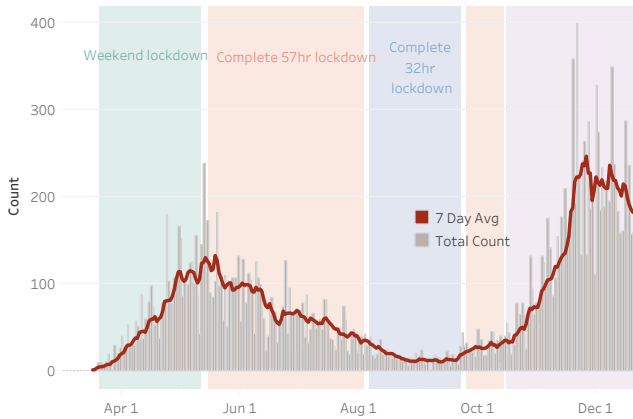
Navajo Nation Residents

Total Confirmed Cases ¹	Total Recovered	Total Confirmed Deaths
21,327	11,202	755
New Cases from Last Update: 151		New Death(s) Reported: 7
Total Tests Completed ²	Total Positive Tests ³	Total Negative Tests
193,981	27,418	158,409

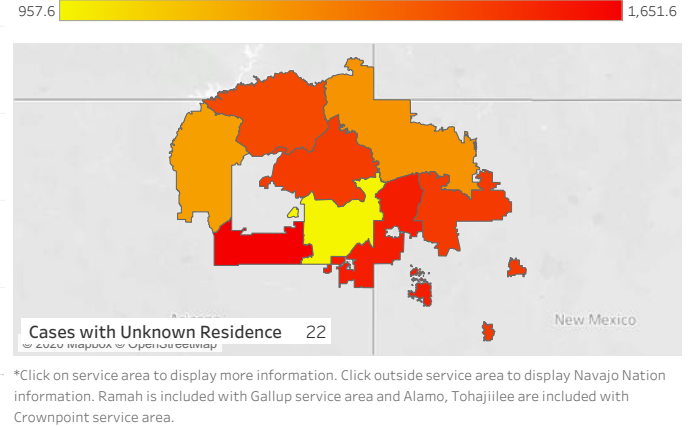
Service Area Confirmed Cases

Bordertown	Chinle	Crownpoint	Ft. Defiance	Gallup	Kayenta	Shiprock	Tuba City	Winslow
6,032	4,048	2,243	2,233	3,530	2,058	3,579	2,282	1,332

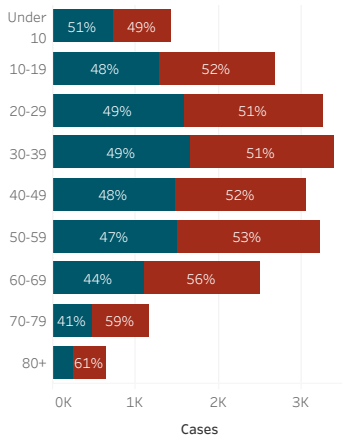
Daily Confirmed Cases on Navajo Nation in All



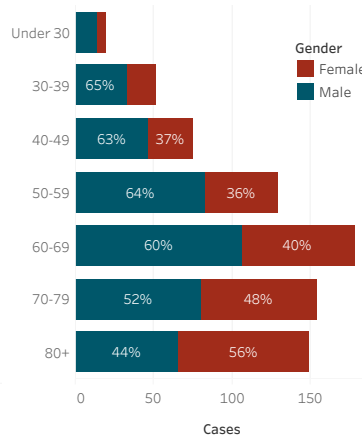
Navajo Nation Service Area Rates per 10,000 population



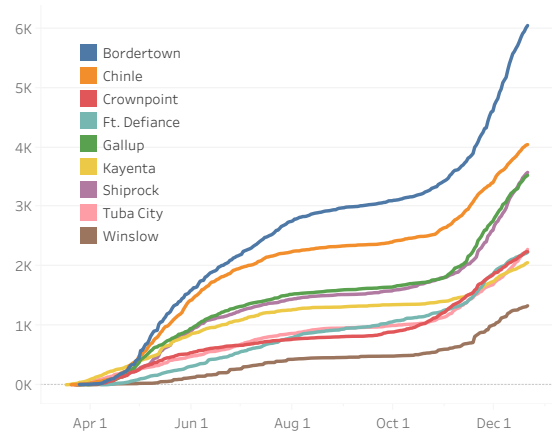
COVID-19 by Age Groups



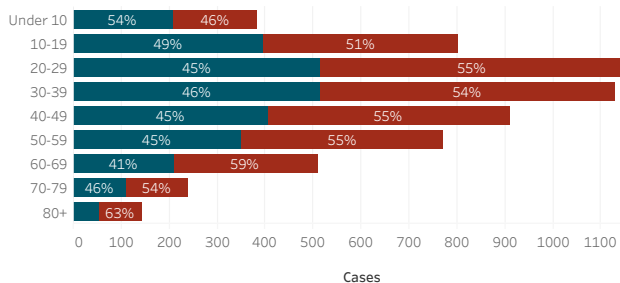
COVID-19 Deaths by Age Groups



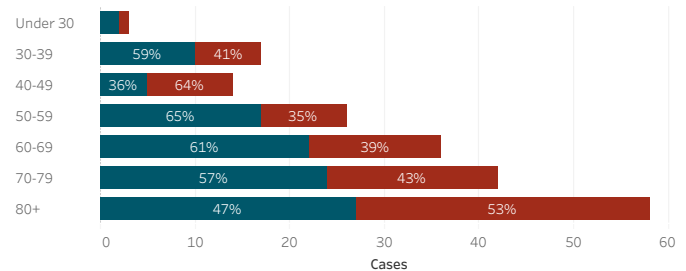
Total Count of Cases since March



Bordertown COVID-19 by Age Groups



Bordertown COVID-19 Deaths by Ages Groups





Social distancing is beautiful.

**Get close to what matters, and
save lives. #DistanceToGetClose**

#WellnessWarriors

#DistanceToGetClose

caih.jhu.edu



DON'T INVITE COVID-19 TO CHRISTMAS

The safest way to celebrate Christmas 2020 is to celebrate with people you live with. Gathering with other family members and friends is fun but it can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu.



STAY HOME
with people
you live with



CELEBRATE
with a
phone call/video call



DO NOT GATHER
with people you do
not live with

December 2020

National Native American Veterans Memorial Celebrates A Complicated Tradition Of Service



From American Homefront:

The National Mall in Washington, D.C. is generally quiet these days, as the resurgent COVID-19 pandemic keeps people home and the Smithsonian museums shuttered.

But those who do venture to its quiet paths will find something new – the National Native American Veterans Memorial on the grounds of the Museum of the American Indian. The memorial opened on Veterans Day with a virtual ceremony. Former Colorado Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a member of the Northern Cheyenne, was instrumental in the museum's creation; the bill to authorize it was among the first he passed in Congress.

"I join my Native brothers and sisters in our love for our country and our willingness to don the uniform of the United States to defend her when our nation needs us most," Campbell, a Korean War veteran, said in a video the museum produced to mark the new memorial's unveiling. "I take great pride in my service to our nation, and the service of our Native American people throughout the nation."

The heart of the leafy memorial is a tall silver ring. Water flows around its base, and the surrounding plaza is ringed by sculpted lances where people can attach prayer flags, as well as benches to sit and contemplate.

The memorial, titled "Warriors' Circle of Honor," was designed by the Cheyenne and Arapaho artist Harvey Pratt, a Vietnam Veteran who is also creating the Sand Creek memorial that will go on the grounds of the Colorado state capitol. "Over and over, veterans said they wanted a place to heal. Remember yes, that's what a memorial is, but also a place for healing," said Alexandra Harris, a museum senior editor and writer.

Harris recently authored a book and an exhibition about Native veterans and their reasons for serving. It's widely repeated that Native Americans serve in the military at a higher rate than any other ethnic group. But according to Harris, that's actually a long-running bit of government propaganda. She traced it back to the World War I and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Cato Sells, who used the phrase in his efforts to get more Native Americans to enlist.

“He was a staunch assimilationist. He believed that American Indians should give up their culture and land. And he saw the war as an avenue to do so,” said Harris. That said, Native Americans do join the military at a high rate and have fought in every U.S. conflict going back to the Revolutionary War. However, given the military’s role in the displacement and subjugation of Indigenous people throughout the course of the nation’s history, the idea that many Native Americans see themselves as part of a tradition of military service may seem a bit contradictory to non-Natives.

“How do you square that tradition with what you understand about Native American history and the nation’s relationship with Native people?” said Historian Mark Hirsch, Harris’s coauthor. It’s a question their book, *Why We Serve*, tries to answer. Many of the reasons have a universal ring: Some Native American service members come from military families or were drafted, or they were looking for a new opportunity and a way out of a bad situation. For many, it’s the opportunity to defend the homeland they’ve inhabited for millennia.

Jeffrey Means signed up with the Marines as a young man because he lacked other opportunities after high school. He’s a member of the Oglala Sioux nation and found the Marine Corps was welcoming, if less than politically correct.

“I had a fellow Marine who looked a whole lot more Native American than I do, and of course his nickname was Chief,” Means recalled.

Means is now a history professor at the University of Wyoming. He speaks fondly of his time in the Marines, but doesn’t downplay the military’s role in displacing Native tribes throughout the nation’s history.

“The United States military has done many wonderful and honorable things,” he said. “We don’t need to pretend that the United States Army never did anything bad. it’s just, it’s just not factual.”



<https://coausphs.org/page/LettersandNewsMedia>

Means notes that even during Westward Expansion, the military’s relationship with Native tribes was often contradictory. U.S. troops committed numerous massacres and atrocities. But individual soldiers were often more familiar with Native Americans than civilian settlers were.

“So they were generally treated better by U.S. soldiers and more reasonably, because they didn’t have that mass hysteria of, ‘Oh my gosh, the savage is going to come kill us.’”

The military’s infamous legacy with tribes continues to linger. The 1890 massacre at Wounded Knee resulted in 20 Medals of Honor, and Congressional efforts to rescind them have so far stalled. The CIA’s codename for Osama Bin Laden was “Geronimo,” after the Apache chief. Today, some military commanders continue to refer to hostile territory overseas as “Indian Country.”

The campaign website for President-Elect Joe Biden addresses those issues, declaring that his administration will “demonstrate respect for Native communities by changing military naming conventions that label enemy-held territory as ‘Indian Country’ and codenames enemy combatants after historic indigenous and tribal figures.”

“I think America as a country hasn’t really grappled with its history with Native people,” said the Smithsonian’s Harris. “So, from the top down, we can’t infuse our institutions in this country with that level of reconciliation that we need to do with Native people until the nation can address that history and see them as individuals and not stereotypes.”



JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE NAVAJO NATION

Hashkééji Nahat'á

The Navajo Nation Courts and Programs of the Judicial Branch continue to provide essential services and are accepting all case filings during the current public health pandemic. For your protection, the exterior doors are closed to the public. To safely serve you, staff are available by phone or appointment. Civil traffic fines for most courts may be paid online at <https://www.justiceweb.navajo-nsn.gov>. For more information about services, the courts may be contacted as follows:

WINDOW ROCK DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 5520, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Telephone: (928) 206-7469 or (928) 871-6626
Fax: (928) 871-7560
Email: nwrcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

CHINLE DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 547, Chinle, AZ 86503
Telephone: (928) 674-2070
Fax: (928) 674-2089
Email: nnchcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

SHIPROCK DISTRICT COURT
P.O. Box 1168, Shiprock, NM 87420
Telephone: (505) 368-1270
Fax: (505) 368-1288
Email: nnsrcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

CROWNPOINT DISTRICT COURT & PUEBLO PINTADO CIRCUIT COURT *
P.O. Box 6, Crownpoint, NM 87313
Telephone: (505) 786-2072 or (928) 797-1542
Fax: (505) 786-2086
Email: nncpcourt@navajo-nsn.gov
Email: nnppcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

KAYENTA DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 2700, Kayenta, AZ 86033
Telephone: (928) 697-5541
Fax: (928) 697-5546
Email: nkycourt@navajo-nsn.gov

TUBA CITY DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 725, Tuba City, AZ 86045
Telephone: (928) 283-3140 or (928) 283-3145
Fax: (928) 283-3158
Email: nntccourt@navajo-nsn.gov

RAMAH DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 309, Ramah, NM 87321
Telephone: (505) 775-3218
Fax: (505) 775-3399
Email: nrmcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

DILKON DISTRICT COURT
HC 63 Box 787, Winslow, AZ 86047
Telephone: (928) 551-2385
Fax: 928-657-8146
Email: nndkcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

ANETH DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 320, Montezuma Creek, UT 84534
Telephone: (435) 651-3545
Fax: (435) 651-3546
Email: anethcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

ALAMO COURT *
P.O. Box 5458, Alamo, NM 87825
Telephone: (575) 854-2668
Fax: (575) 854-2660
Email: nnalcourt@navajo-nsn.gov

TO'HAIJILEE COURT *
P.O. Box 3101-A, To'Hajilee, NM 87026
Telephone: (505) 908-2817
Fax: (505) 908-2819
Email: ntocourt@navajo-nsn.gov

DZIL YIJIN DISTRICT COURT *
P.O. Box 129, Pinon, AZ 86510
Telephone: (928) 725-3781
Fax: (928) 725-3786
Email: nndycourt@navajo-nsn.gov

SUPREME COURT
P.O. Box 520, Window Rock, AZ 86515
Telephone: (505) 567-4448
Fax: (928) 871-7016
Email: nnsupremecourt@navajo-nsn.gov

PEACEMAKING PROGRAM
Central Peacemaking: (928) 797-1329
Alamo: (928) 797-1370
Aneth: (928) 797-1371
Chinle: (928) 797-1367/1373
Crownpoint: (928) 797-1378
Dilkon: (928) 797-1379/1380
Ramah: (928) 797-1316
Shiprock: (928) 797-1368/1317
Tuba City: (928) 797-1322
Window Rock: (928) 797-1325/1327
Dzil Yijin: (928) 797-1381
Kayenta: (928) 797-1382

PROBATION SERVICES
Chinle/Kayenta/Dzil Yijin/Tuba City: (928) 421-3475
Crownpoint: (505) 393-5481, (505) 862-9064
Shiprock: (505) 354-1528, (505) 609-8278, (505) 750-4640
Aneth: (435) 315-2038
To'Hajilee/Alamo: (505) 280-2186
Window Rock: (505) 901-9840
Dilkon: (480) 788-7170
Ramah: (505) 862-9250

* HAS DROP BOX FOR DOCUMENT DROP OFF

www.navajocourts.org

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS HELP DEALING WITH STRESS OR THE EMOTIONAL EFFECTS OF COVID-19 HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES:

Navajo residents can also call Navajo Regional Behavioral Health Center at (505) 368-1438 or (505) 368-1467, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday (MDT)

After 5 p.m., Monday - Friday (MDT)

Chinle Region:
(928) 551-0713

Dilkon and Tuba City Region:
(928) 551-0624

Farmington, Kirtland, and Shiprock Region:
(928) 551-0508

Shiprock and Red Mesa Region:
(928) 551-0394



NAVAJO NATION THREE (3) WEEK STAY-AT-HOME LOCKDOWN

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2020-031

START

December 7, 2020

END

December 28, 2020

- Individuals are required to remain at home 24-hours, 7 days a week, with the exceptions of essential workers that must report to work, emergency situations, to obtain essential food, medication, supplies, tend to livestock, outdoor exercising within the vicinity of your home, and wood gathering and hauling with a permit.
- Re-implements **full 57-hour weekend lockdowns** for 3 additional weekends that include: 8:00 P.M. MST through 5:00 A.M. MST on December 11, 2020 through December 14, 2020, December 18, 2020 through December 21, 2020, and December 25, 2020 through December 28, 2020.
- Essential businesses including gas stations, grocery stores, laundromats, restaurants and food establishments that provide drive-thru and curbside services, and hay vendors can operate from 7:00 a.m. (MST) to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday only.
- Individuals are required to STAY HOME and STAY ON THE NAVAJO NATION and refrain from off-Reservation travel.

DIKOS NTSAAÍGÍ-19
CORONAVIRUS

NAVAJO HEALTH COMMAND OPERATIONS CENTER
(P) 928.871.7014
(E) coronavirus.info@ndoh.org
www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19



FREE DRIVE-THRU COVID-19 TESTING

9am - 4pm (MST)



DECEMBER 2020

MONDAYS:
Kayenta Chapter
Tuba City Chapter

TUESDAYS:
Chinle Chapter

WEDNESDAYS:
Dilkon Chapter
St. Michaels Chapter

THURSDAYS:
Crownpoint Chapter
Shiprock Chapter

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Complete testing form before or at testing site
- Stay in your car when you arrive
- A testing team member will collect sample
- Individuals testing POSITIVE will be notified between 2-3 days of test results
- All test results will be shared with the local health facility for contact tracing
- Please answer your phone calls, results will not be left on voice mail or text
- Contact the Coordination Center at 1-844-935-3932 for results and information on Nation COVID-19 isolation and quarantine resources
- Schedule is subject to change

DIKOS NTSAAÍGÍ-19
CORONAVIRUS



Navajo Health Command Operations Center
(928) 871-7014
coronavirus.info@ndoh.org
www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19

DIKOS NTSAAÍGÍ-19
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NAVAJO HEALTH COMMAND OPERATIONS CENTER
(P) 928.871.7014
(E) coronavirus.info@navajo-nsn.gov
www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19



Merry
Xmas &
Happy
New Year!



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

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Denise Copeland, Assistant Editor

Sylvia Jordan, Contributing Writer

