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Issue  
**ONE**

A Bi-Weekly Insight into Fort Peck Tribal News



# FPT Newsletter



## Current topics >>>

### Fort peck Transit Dial-A-Ride

Fort Peck Transit has expanded its Dial-A-Ride program with the acquisition of two 2020 Honda Odyssey. For ease of access, one is equipped an ADA compliant wheelchair ramp.

The expansion of the Dial-A-Ride program will focus on the transportation of west-end community members (Frazer, Oswego, and Wolf Point) to Poplar for personal Business. This service will be open to all tribal and non-tribal residents.

**For more information call:**  
**(406)-768-3909**

## Phase 2 Modifications

### Reducing exposure risks to COVID-19

*With Covid-19 cases on the rise in closely neighboring communities, the Fort Peck Tribe is taking measures to ensure the safety of its residents by moving the reservation back into a modified version of the Phase 2 plan.*

Montana has seen an increasing rate of positive results coinciding with community spread infection and increased testing. In an effort to reduce possibility of spread and maintain our low infection rate, the Tribal Executive Board voted in favor of reinstating a modified version of the Phase 2 reopening conditions.

Modified Phase 2 conditions included but were not limited to; a reduced curfew between the hours of 12 - 5 am, cautious travel advisory, and strong social distancing and mask recommendations.

The implementation of modified Phase 2 also closed Tribal buildings to the public and reduced staff to essentials only. These essentials were determined by the directors of each department.

Certain departments and programs, such as roads and housing, were considered crucial to the livelihood and maintenance of the Fort Peck Reservation. As such, all employees of

**Phase 2 procedures  
went into effect after a  
non-resident employee  
tested positive for  
COVID-19.**

These departments were considered essential and asked to continue working as normal, nevertheless they were asked to practice caution and maintain awareness of any possible exposure.

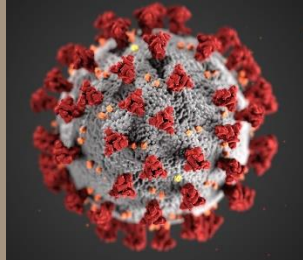
Due to the pandemic, the Tribes requested that the City of Wolf Point cancel the annual Wolf Point Stampede and Rodeo to avoid further spread from out of town participants and audience members.

The City and Tribes came to an agreement to cancel many of the heavily crowded events, like the carnival and parades, while maintaining the rodeo which would strongly advise social distancing.



# Reducing Spread Through Awareness

Surveillance testing has continued across the reservation to assure our community that COVID-19 has not spread to our county. It has become a crucial procedure in



maintaining awareness of infection rates, allowing the Tribes to take preventative measures to avoid further spread. Now, the biggest hurdle the Tribes face is community spread. This occurs when a person unknowingly comes into contact with an infected person.

This risk increases with travel, outside our community or when an infected individual enters without self-quarantining, often unknowingly spreading the virus.

IHS is combating the threat of community spread by conducting daily screenings of all of its patients and staff, as well as offering testing to anyone who thinks they have been exposed.

The testing provided is Nasopharyngeal (NP) which is the most accurate and only



state approved test offered. These results can be determined when an individual receives the test between 5-14 days after contact with an infected person.

Local nursing homes are also doing their part in fighting any risks of infection, through daily screenings and testing through the Governors own program.

## T-SHIP Relocation

T-SHIP has moved to 708 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave West in Poplar from their former "Old Post Office" site. Their new location used to house the Diabetes trailer.



## Medical Travel

*Due to the current COVID 19 pandemic, the Fort Peck Tribal Health - Medical Travel policies may experience adjustments..*

For more information go to

[http://www.fortpecktribes.org/fpth/medical\\_travel.html](http://www.fortpecktribes.org/fpth/medical_travel.html)

Call 406-768-3491 or 406-653-1191

Or continue reading...

## FPT Native American Museum

*Amid the global pandemic, the Fort Peck Tribes Native American Museum continues to make steady progress towards their grand opening.*

With the help of nine student interns, the museum has completed its move to its new location next to the FPCC Library.

In the process, interns have learned to sort, file, and digitize all while creating a master list of all the artifacts on location.

While there is still much to be done, the Project Director/T.P.H.O Cultural Resource Director Dyan Youpee, is optimistic about what is to come.

Along with the archives and displays, the museum will contain a study lab with 3 computer stations open to the public and a touch screen kiosk.

These new hands on stations will



allow visitors to dive into archive databases and repositories that will allow them to engage with documents, pictures, and census polls as far back as the early 1900's.

"We hope people won't settle on one historical interpretation and call it the only story.." – Dyan Youpee

FPT Cultural Resources: 406-768- 2382

<http://www.fortpecktribes.org/crd/index.html>

# Medical Travel Cont..

*Medical Travel guidelines and policy are liable to experience temporary changes as the pandemic progresses. We will continue to update any and all modifications in a timely matter.*



Eligibility for allocations are as follows:

- Must be an enrolled member of the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
  - Must not owe money to the Medical Assistance Program
  - If applying for a non-enrolled person you must be common law married, legally married, or have legal custody of minor(s).
  - Applicant/patient must have a written medical deemed appointment or hospitalization.
  - \$200 for out of state travel
  - \$160 per applicant/patient flown out, receiving inpatient services, and two (2) day appointments.
- \$120 for one (1) day appointments.
  - \$80 for patient, or \$90 for a person with an approved escort for patients travelling with an IHS or CHR driver.
  - \$80 for surgery and \$25 for checkup for baby bottle tooth decay in Glasgow.
  - \$26 per appointment or \$100 per week for active cancer patients in Glasgow and Sidney, MT or Williston, ND.
  - \$30 Flat rate for Veterans and a CHR transport for any appointments.
  - Hotel accommodations are only provided when patients are flown out on weekends and holidays. Applicants/patients may receive up to \$160 in hotel accommodations.
  - \$800 a week for long-term elderly (65 and older) inpatient care, with NO assistance from Tribal Health for payment of rooms, not to exceed two (2) continuous weeks at a time.
    - Patient must have lived within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Peck Reservation for the last 90 days.



## Tribal Court

Tribal Court is open Monday through Friday, 10 am – 2 pm. Please wear a mask and sanitize your hands when entering the building.

Tribal Court 406-768-2400  
Criminal Clerk 406-768-2417  
Civil Clerk 406-768-2416  
Family Clerk 406-768-2414  
Juvenile Clerk 406-768-2413  
Prosecutors Office 406-768-2383  
Public Defenders Office 406-768-2470  
Probation 406-768-2408/2406

Or Visit [FPTC.org](http://FPTC.org) for more info.

## Fall 2020 Registration

The Fort Peck Community College is now registering students for the upcoming fall semester!

New students can contact Jackie at:  
406-768-6352  
[JSpottedbird@fpcc.edu](mailto:JSpottedbird@fpcc.edu)

Returning students can contact Michelle at:  
406-768-6351  
[MDay@fpcc.edu](mailto:MDay@fpcc.edu)

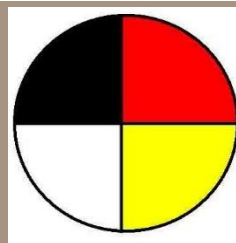
## Annual Buffalo Lottery Reminder

The Fort Peck Tribes Enrolled Member Buffalo Hunt Lottery is still taking applications for their 2020 hunting season. The deadline remains July 31<sup>st</sup> and lottery drawing will take place August 6<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be found at:  
<http://www.fortpecktribes.org/fgd>

### Who We Are >>>

**Q:** What is the Medicine Wheel?

**A:** The Medicine Wheel is a Sacred symbol of knowledge



Circle: Represents the sacred boundary of the earth, and the pattern of life and death.

Lines: represent the sun and mans sacred paths, crossing at the center where one stands in prayer.

Feather: The eagle feather represents Wakan Tanka.

Each of the directions is represented by a color in the wheel; with yellow representing the East, red representing North, black representing West, and white representing South.

These representations go beyond the four directions, to learn more feel free to contact the Language and Culture Department at 406-768-3520







# Fort Peck Tribal Building Operating Hours

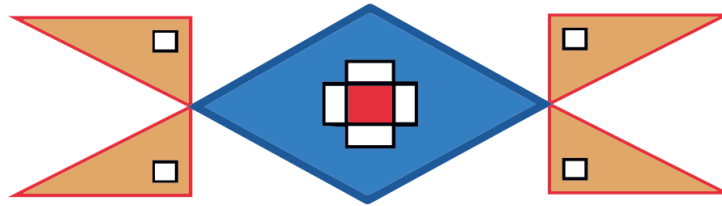
The Fort Peck Tribal building is closed to the public until further notice.

Departments are continuing to follow Phase 2 recommendations and limiting employees to essentials only at reduced hours.

If you need to come to the Tribal building, please call ahead of your visit.

Essential staff will be available between 10 am and 2 pm.

## Mas'óphiye



## Gift Shop

**603 Court Avenue • Poplar, MT • 406.768.3520**

## Mas'óphiye Gift Shop Marks One Year In Business

The Mas'óphiye Gift Shop is celebrating its one-year anniversary this month after a busy year of offering unique and local gifts and cultural items for sale.

The gift shop is located at 603 Court Avenue inside the Fort Peck Tribes Language & Cultural Department facility, just off US Highway 2 in Poplar.

The business opened with the goal of providing communities the opportunity to shop for unique products and cultural and ceremonial items such as a specific colored cloth, natural tobacco, medicines and specific objects for cultural practices.

The idea of such a gift shop sprung into action after it was found more and more people are looking for gifts and items related to the culture and spirituality of the Dakota, Lakota and Nakoda people. Numerous online requests for such gifts and items also spotlighted the need.

The high attendance at the language and culture's art events have boosted the urgency for the shop, which features local medicines such as mullein, sage and sweetgrass, and arts and crafts featuring local artists.

The gift shop space, which was the former lab for the Tribes' Office of Environmental Protection, was renovated to give that "trading

post" feel and software and display shelving and cases were purchased.

In the display cases are beadwork from local artists, abalone shells, jewelry, paintings, medicines and ceremonial plants, enamelware, sweetgrass-infused health products, jams and jellies, dry meat, dried corn and dried braids of turnips. Tobacco for ceremonial purposes is also available.

Recently added were CDs with local singers performing celebration songs.

The long-term goals include enhancing the language and cultural needs, supply education materials, promote local arts and crafts, contribute to the local economy, provide another venue for community members to shop at a tribally-owned business, and cultural arts preservation.

Besides local residents, visitors to the shop include tribal members who made the trip home, tour groups and tourists traveling through Northeastern Montana.

All revenue made from the store remains within the program.

# About The Editor

*Misty Daniels graduated from the University of Montana with a BA in Media Arts in May, 2020. Prior to her college career, she grew up and worked in Wolf Point, MT and attended Fort Peck Community College.*

*Now she spends her spare time reading, playing video games, remodeling her home, and prepping her yard for next year's gardening and chickens.*

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**FORT PECK**  
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Coming soon >>>

## In The Next Issue

*We cordially invite everyone to submit your ideas and articles for our next issue. Please email all submissions to:*  
[MDaniels@FortPeckTribes.net](mailto:MDaniels@FortPeckTribes.net)