



Contact: Emerald Dahozy
Public Information Officer

Office: (928) 871-7884

Cell: (928) 255-3534

navajonationpress@navajo-nsn.gov

For Immediate Release
Feb 13, 2012

President Shelly addresses the Arizona Centennial Indian Village



President Shelly addressing the Arizona Centennial Indian Village on Feb. 11 in Phoenix.

PHOENIX- President Ben Shelly promoted Navajo tourism at opening ceremonies at the Arizona Best Fest on Saturday in honor of the Arizona Centennial Indian Village.

“We are continuing to educate people about who the Navajo people are through sharing our culture. Tourism offers the opportunity for visitors to visit our homeland,” President Shelly stated to more than 200 people in attendance.

The Arizona Centennial Indian Village provided the opportunity to teach and share the rich culture and history of American Indian tribes in Arizona.

“Arizona has a rich history because Native American tribes have been here before statehood. Before Arizona became a state, it was a territory. We have elders who are close to 100 years old and to me, that is an amazing history,” President Shelly said.

President Shelly said he wants the Navajo Nation to continue progressing.

“We progressed with the State of Arizona and we are continuing to progress forward as a Nation,” President Shelly added.

The Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation, the Navajo Nation Museum and Navajo Nation Tourism, in a joint effort, built a female and male hogan as well as displayed the Chilchinbito rug. Demonstrations of hair tying, corn grinding and weaving were also on display.

###