Michelle Obama makes surprise visit to GRIC

Former first lady joins youth for historic roundtable discussion at the Huhugam Heritage Center

Former first lady Michelle Obama made a surprise visit to the Huhugam Heritage Center for a roundtable discussion at the Huhugam Heritage Center on Feb. 12.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who introduced himself to Michelle Obama, said, "My impression of her was that she’s a smart and confident woman who is a role model to me," said Cardona. The youth described their experiences in education to Mrs. Obama and she encouraged them to reach their goals.

The youth were under the impression that the meeting would include a guest, but it came as a shock when the former first lady entered to room. "My mind just went blank," Dawahoya said. "I really had no idea that Michelle Obama was going to be here," she said.

Mrs. Obama was joined by Valerie Jarrett, former advisor to President Barack Obama, as part of her Reach Higher initiative, which was launched in 2014 to inspire every student in America to pursue higher education. For the visit, Reach Higher partnered with Yoobi, a stationery and school supply company, to donate school supplies to the 900 elementary and middle school students in the Community.

Local news outlets were also present and covered the first part of the meeting as the students introduced themselves to Mrs. Obama. The media was then excused while the meeting continued in private.

Mrs. Obama also revealed her own struggles as a young woman, according to Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who said the former first lady bonded with the students.

"Mrs. Obama connected with the youth present were Charisma Quiroz, a student of District 1, was also invited to the meeting to discuss education. "I thought it was just a regular roundtable," Erica Dawahoya, 19.

The Tribal Education Department hosted the Governor’s Education Summit every year since I’ve been governor to engage our Community in the state of education throughout the Gila River Indian Community," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

The summit’s theme, “Improving GRIC Schools from Within,” promoted the sharing of input from the youth, parents, grandparents, and guardians residing in the Community, school board administrators, and school staff. It also encouraged the participation of high school students, who have an active interest in the future of their education.

"This is important, we get the input of our youth, parents, and our elders, everyone in the room today," said Gov. Lewis, "The important thing, is that we stay true to who we are as Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh, and how our value system makes our schools better."

He said these are exciting times for the youth, so much is happening at a rapid pace, that they will need the skills to keep up with students from non-tribal schools.

"Strong schools produce healthy children, they go on to be..." Continued on Page 10.
Save The Date!

Come celebrate the opening of the Mar 5 Interpretive Trail

Friday March 1, 2019
Mar 5 Site – District 3

More information to come
Coyotes Foundation donates to Sacaton Elementary STEM

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Arizona Coyotes Foundation donated $5,000 to Sacaton Elementary School during a game against the Dallas Stars at Gila River Arena on Feb. 9.

At the game, the Coyotes aired the donation on live-television before a packed house of over 13,418 hockey fans. The donation will go towards the school’s Junior Master Gardener’s STEAM programing for the second to fourth grades at SES. According to a school press release, it is a “hands-on approach,” that will teach children about plants, flowers, fruits and vegetables and their purpose in their diet.

Wanda Burton, SES Principal said, “It gives our students a chance to learn by doing things hands-on. This is a huge experience for them, we can’t say thank you enough to the Coyotes Foundation for this gift.”

“This is a great opportunity to expand our agriculture in the schools to the young ones, that will carry on our traditions,” said Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, who was present to receive the donation.

He said the partnership between the Community and the Arizona Coyotes Foundation, benefits everyone. “Agriculture is our heritage and anything that keeps our children involved in the planting of our traditional foods is important,” said Lt. Gov. Stone.

Ahron Cohen, President and CEO of the Arizona Coyotes, said, “It’s wonderful, our partnership with GRIC is so important to us and we want to do some positive good for the Community and see the students get involved with different things.”

Cohen said that work in the Community is important to the Coyotes organization.

“One of our core pillars of our team, is giving back to our local community and what better way than to give back to our major partners, the Gila River Indian Community,” said Cohen.

The JMG, includes a curriculum that will teach the students about plant growth and development, soils and water, ecology and horticulture, insects and diseases and landscape. In addition, the curriculum integrates math, science, language arts, and social studies.

The Pee Poosh Veterans Association presented the colors during the signing of the national anthem prior to the game, and later the Arizona Coyotes and the National Hockey League launched a month-long campaign called, “Hockey is for Everyone,” an initiative to promote diversity and equality on and off the ice. Coyotes hosted the Stars 3-2, to avenge an earlier loss in the season.

District 3 Head Start Center
Thursday, March 7, 2019

Requirements:
> At least 18 years of age
> Completed TED Application
> Copy of Tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood
> Valid Identity Verified Prints (IVP) Card
> Must be employed or have recently applied for employment with the Gila River Indian Community or an educational institute which services Gila River Indian Community Members.
> $60 Fee to be paid to the Arizona Department of Education

Deadline for TED application is Friday, February 22, 2019
A young golfer takes a swing at the N7 golf experience. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

O’Odham Tash Back with new events

By Heather Smathers
PinalCentral.com

CASA GRANDE — O’Odham Tash is a time for local tribes to celebrate their shared heritage while honoring their unique differences.

Some new events will take place at the annual O’Odham Tash celebration this year, which will be held on Feb. 16 and 17.

Event coordinator Georgette Johnson said a traditional social Walia dance will be added this year.

The softball tournament had been a staple at the O’Odham Tash celebration, and Johnson said she’s excited to see it back.

This year the tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday, although enough teams sign up, play might need to begin on Friday night.

The double-elimination tournament is open to Native players but each team is allowed to have up to four non-Native people, two men and two women.

Johnson said other events will be watching place simultaneously: the social powwow and Toka tournament.

The Toka tournament started just a few years ago as a regular event with the O’Odham Tash celebration, featuring a traditional Native American game.

It is akin to a field hockey match; it is a team event with teams still being accepted.

While spectators are welcome to take the social powwow and traditional dancing photographs, vendors can only permitend with permission.

Vendors, including artists and craftsmen, will be on hand with their wares and different food vendors selling traditional Native fare, Johnson said.

On Saturday night, a concert featuring Native Creed will take place. The concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. It is family-friendly, and children under 10 can attend the concert for free. Adults will pay $10 per person at the gate.

Kevin Juan, who is helping Johnson coordinate several O’Odham Tash events this year, said all of the events are open to families and no drugs or alcohol are permitted at any of the events.

“We want to show the next generations our traditions and history,” he said. “When we go to these events, no matter where we’re from, we’re all family.”

To have a booth at the event, contact Johnson at 520-221-5368. To sign up for the softball tournament, call Serena Johnson at 520-993-6563.

Nike N7 Jr. Golf Experience held at the TPC Scottsdale course

By Maria Vasquez
PinalCentral.com

CASA GRANDE — Spectators should expect two jam-packed days at the O’Odham Tash Rodeo.

“The public can come out to watch the best that Indian rodeo has to offer,” rodeo secretary Penny Mix said.

Contestants from the Indian National Finals Rodeo and the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association along with amateurs will be competing in different events from bull riding to calf roping and bareback riding.

In the wild horse race, teams made up of three members will attempt to catch, saddle and ride a wild mustang. There will also be a roping competition that will bring together the four sister tribes of the area.

According to Mix, in order to participate the contestant must be a member of the Tohono O’odham Nation, Ak-Chin, Gila River or Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian communities.

There are roughly 10 to 15 participants per event, with the largest being the team roping and the women’s breakaway roping.

This year the rodeo will re-introduce bareback riding. Other events include saddle bronc and tie-down roping. Buckles will be awarded to each event winner.

The O’Odham Tash Rodeo is scheduled to start at 1 p.m. on Feb. 16 and 17 at Ed Hooper Rodeo Park.

Admission is $15, children 12 and under enter for free.

START DATE: Nomination of Candidacy (DOC) opens to candidates on February 19, 2019

For questions in regards to this schedule, contact the Tribal Elections office at 520-562-4975 or 9756.
Gila River Police Department has recently received a number of questions about Community Members' rights to own or possess firearms on the GRIC. Here are some answers to some of the most common questions we get on this topic:

- Can Community Members legally own and possess firearms on the GRIC?

The GRC Community Council has not passed any laws which make it illegal for Community Members to own or possess firearms on the GRIC. However, as a sovereign nation, the Council is free to choose to do so in the future.

- When is it illegal for a Community Member to own or possess a firearm on the GRIC?

Some things make it nearly permanently illegal for a Community Member to own or possess a firearm. Some examples of this are being convicted of a felony in tribal, state, or federal court, being convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence in tribal, state, or federal courts, being convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence in tribal, state, or federal courts, being convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence in tribal, state, or federal courts, or being convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence in tribal, state, or federal courts. 

Other things make it temporarily illegal to own or possess a firearm. Some examples are being the subject of a domestic violence order of protection (the order is against you), being on terms of release from a court which prohibits you from having firearms (including some kinds of probation for misdemeanor crimes) and being adjudicated as mentally incompetent by a judge. Additionally, if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs (including prescription drugs) to the point of being unable to have a firearm until you are no longer intoxicated.

- Where can Community Members legally possess and carry firearms?

If you can legally possess a firearm, you can carry it on your own property and in public places which do not carry any legal restrictions to carry firearms. If you are on the property of another person or of a business, and they do not want you to carry firearms, you have to either leave your firearm, take it off the property, or leave the property with your firearms. 

Although some buildings are open to the public (such as the casinos and Rawhide), they are actually considered private property for legal purposes. These facilities also have the right to post signs which prohibit people from carrying firearms on their premises.

- Can certain kinds of firearms illegal to own or possess on the GRIC?

Most types of pistols, revolvers, rifles, and shotguns are legal to own and carry. Machine guns, sound suppressors (silencers), short-barreled shotguns and rifles (see below), explosives (grenades, dynamite, etc.), and bombs are not legal to possess under tribal, state, or federal law, unless the you are specially licensed by the federal or state government. Additionally, stolen firearms and firearms which have had their serial numbers removed are illegal to possess.

- What defines a short-barreled / illegal firearm?

No current laws which prohibit carry of concealed firearms on the GRIC.

- Can a GRPD officer legally take my firearm during a contact? Do they have to give it back?

While engaged in official and properly justified business (such as a police investigation or a traffic stop), GRPD officers can take temporary custody of your firearm. As long as you are legally allowed to possess the firearm, it is not a stolen or illegal weapon, and it is not being seized as evidence or for safetykeeping (which can happen during certain kinds of domestic violence calls), your firearm will be returned to you at the end of the contact. Officers will usually return your firearm to you unload- ed, and ask you not to reload it until they have left the area.

- If a GRPD officer asks if I have a firearm during a police investigation, do I have to tell him/her?

By Community Code, you are to be truthful if a police officer asks you whether you have a firearm during an official police in- vestigation or contact.

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Local non-profit organization works with GRIC members on their goals

GRFD seeking recruits with new SAFER grant

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Fire Department has received a Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) grant from the U.S. Department of Home- land Security. The Community has been working to obtain the SAFER grant for quite some time and have now been successful.

The SAFER grant is a three-year grant that provides funding to fire departments and volunteer firefighter organizations to help increase or maintain trained firefighters.

The grant is allowing the Department to recruit 20 firefighter apprentices. GRFD is in dire need of more firefighters due to high call volumes, economic development, and high levels of traffic that comes through the districts and casinos. GRFD currently has four stations in Districts 1, 3, 4, and 6 and is hoping with the hopes of the more in the future.

With the SAFER grant, GRFD is eager to bring in as many Community members as possible on board but the apprenticeship is open to anyone who applies, with limited to zero certifications.

Those accepted will go through a six-month academy, EMT school, Firefighter I & II and move on to the academy. The closing date to apply is Feb. 21 and you can apply online at www.gilariver.org.

GRFD has been actively promoting the department through Community engagement with a focus on youth, to see and explore the fire service through job and health fairs with firefighters in gear on site.

GRFD is also working to bring back their explorer program which allows ages 14 to 21 gain some experience and mentorship towards the apprentice program.

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Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

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21st Century Native

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Gila River Police Department

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LA theater company holding auditions for “Native Nation”

Christopher Lomahquahu

A Los Angeles theater company is reaching out to the local Native population for actors and stage hands.

A Los Angeles theater company and Arizona State University Gammage have partnered to bring a unique opportunity to the greater Phoenix area for individuals who want to explore their interests in acting.

Cornerstone and ASU have hosted script reading sessions at Steele Indian School Park and the ASU Center for Indian Education for the past couple of months as they prepare an opening April show of the play “Native Nation.”

“Native Nation,” is based on the experiences of Indigenous people from all walks of life. The play is written by Lariisa Fast-Horse (Lakota), and will be directed by Michael Garces, Cornerstone’s Company Artistic Director.

During the early process of writing the plays, some of the stories are about social issues and customs, topics related to child custody, cultural knowledge and a myriad of issues Native people face, while trying to find an identity in modern times. In between transitions, from one scene to another, the three plays include information about local tribes, like the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Pascua Yaqui and others. The production recognizes the traditional lands of the Akimel O’otham, who trace their ancestry to the Huu, the Huhugam and how for over a millennium, the Huhugam inhabited what is now the Phoenix Metropolitan area.

“We definitely want people to participate in the auditions that we will be hosting later this month,” said Garces. “The play will change throughout the process and the way it will change is on the input from the people, who will help guide us and tell us what is missing and what is missing is something very important to the play.”

During a script reading on Jan. 27 at Steele Indian School Park in Phoenix, Fast-Horse and Garces, sat down with participants to emphasize the importance of American Indians’ contributions to the play. “It’s very much still in progress and that is why we are here to see what we need to add, we have been coming back for a year and half now,” said Fast-Horse. “We’ve been talking about the things like this and asking what we should add and what people need to hear about about indigenous people in this area.”

When the play takes place Garces believes the attention will be split up into groups and watching different stories told simultaneously, so people can have different experiences and learn from the stories each time.

“The focuses used this same format previously for the play, “Urban Rez,” which has been touring the people of Southern California living within the Los Angeles County area. It also included the stories of Native people, who moved to LA from places across the country.

During the LA event, it became something akin to a cultural fair, which gave visitors an opportunity to experience Native traditional food, performances, and arts & crafts booths.

For over 35 years, Cornerstone Theater Company, a collection of professional artists and local members, has been producing plays that go beyond the stage with stories based on the challenges and experience faced in local communities. In their previous productions, several of the actors did not have any theater experience. Fast-Horse and Garces, said that it adds to the sense of community, when a play is based on real experiences and perspectives found in Native people.

For more information, you can email Fast-Horse at larisasafasthorse@gmail.com or Sequoia Lynn Dance, ASU Community Engagement Coordinator at: sddance@asu.edu, or ASU Educational Enrichment Program Manager Desiree Ong at (480) 965-3940. For each of the castings for actors, crew and models, there is no experience necessary.

Complete guide at www.grbc.tv

GRIC EVENTS

GRIC EVENTS

GRIC EVENTS

GRIC EVENTS

GRIC EVENTS
FROM THE FRONT PAGE

them instantly,” said
Gov. Lewis.

Mrs. Obama pre-
sented the youth with
autographed copies of
her book, “Becoming,”
and tickets to her ap-
pearance at the Comer-
ica Theatre in Phoenix
for “An Intimate Con-
versation with Michelle
Obama.”

After the meeting a
message was posted to
Mrs. Obama’s official
Instagram account, (@
michelleobama, that
said, “Today I sat down
with several young
people from the Gila
River Indian Commu-
nity in Chandler, Arizo-
na, home to the Akimel
O’odham and Pee Posh
tribes. To me, these stu-
dents are living proof of
the power of resilience.
No matter what they’re
facing, no matter their
circumstances, they get
up every day believing
that they can make life
better for themselves,
their families, and their
peers. I believe in them,
too—and I hope you
do as well. This isn’t
the last time we’ll hear
from Samaira, Andrew,
Adam, Charisma, Dan-
iel, Karissa, and Erica.
#ReachHigher.”

The Gila River Indian Community participated
in the Tohono O’odham Nation’s 81st Annual Wap-
kial Ha:Tas Rodeo & Fair in Sells, Ariz. GRIC was
represented in the Nation’s
parade on Feb. 2 by Gov.
Stephen Rie Lewis, Lt.
Gov. Robert Stone, Miss
Gila River Autumn Cooper,
Jr. Miss Gila River Samaria
Juan, Haskell Osife Antone
Post No. 51, Keli Akimal
Hua Modk Cudkdam (Gila
River Basket Dancers) and
Achem A’al Indigenous
Traditional Pima Basket
Dancers.

The parade’s theme
was “Celebrating the resil-
ience of O’odham Himdag
through Beauty, Health,
and Wellness” and present-
ed awards in six categories:
Business, Group, School,
Music, Tribal Programs,
and Royalty.

Keli Akimal Hua
Modk Cudkdam (Gila Riv-
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group category and Achem
A’al Indigenous Traditional
Pima Basket Dancers plac-
ing second in the music cat-
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performances during the
weekend at the fairgrounds.

Following the parade,
GRIC Royalty attended the
TON Rodeo and Fair’s Pow
Wow and participated in the
grand entry ceremony.

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

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Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Basket Dancers performed during the parade in Sells and won second place in
the parade’s group category. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Miss Gila River Autumn Cooper waves during the parade. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis acknowledges the crowd as an entry in the parade. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Adam Cardona during an interview with Channel 12 News. Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Daniel Lewis sits between Valerie Jarrett and Mrs. Obama. Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Michelle Obama shakes hands with Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN
Talking About the Weather

In the July – October, 2018 issues of the GRIN the Akimel O’otham Orthography had been published along with the alphabet, vowels, diphthongs and diacritics. These should assist our readers in understanding the sound system and how to speak basic Akimel O’otham. In the coming articles ahead we publish micro-lessons in putting basic sentences together for our readers.

This is the time of year when we experience huge weather changes as the different weather systems passing through our community. The weather is something that we all have in common on a day to day basis as we commute to work, school and in our daily lives. Many community members and other employees work outdoors every day. We all dress for the weather and try to keep warm to ensure that we don’t become susceptible to colds and the flu. Before heading outside, it is helpful to ask someone to check what the weather is like before we leave home. One way to do this in O’otham is by using the phrase “Sha: ’i chu’ig jek’keḍ?” which translates into English as “What is it like outside?”

Knowing how much the weather changes this time of year, there is a whole list of possible replies including the following:

- S-he:pith ‘o (jek’keḍ).
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-thoñ ‘o (jek’keḍ).
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-chev’gig ‘o (jek’keḍ).
- It’s really windy (outside).
- S-he:pith ‘o.
- It’s really windy (outside).
- S-thoñ ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-he:pith ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-chev’gig ‘o.
- It’s really windy (outside).
- S-he:pith ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-thoñ ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-he:pith ‘o.
- It’s really windy (outside).
- S-thoñ ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-chev’gig ‘o.
- It’s really windy (outside).
- S-thoñ ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-chev’gig ‘o.
- It’s really windy (outside).
- S-thoñ ‘o.
- It’s really cold (outside).
- S-chev’gig ‘o.
- It’s really windy (outside).

But let’s say that we wanted to answer the question by saying the weather is really strong in some aspect (“really cold, really windy, really warm”). We can do this in O’otham by using the word i:vo at the beginning of the statement.

The word ’i:vo or ‘hi:vo (depending on location where you live) works like the words “very” or “really” in English in that it gives importance to the action verb.

I:vo (’o) S-he:pith (jek’keḍ).
It’s really cold (outside).
No s-chev’gig (jek’keḍ).
Is it cloudy (outside)?
Now you have a number of different ways to talk about the weather with your friends and family. Try using these statements and questions with one another to ask each other “Sha: ’i chu’ig jek’keḍ?” You can see how much you know by completing this month’s language puzzle.

HHC represents Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh for Michelle Obama visit

Mrs. Michelle Obama as she first entered the room at the Huhugam Heritage Center.

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

How do you prepare for a visit from a former first lady in less than a week?

“It’s been a whirlwind these past few days,” said Jackson. “We tried to make it a good set up and what would really capture the community within this small amount of time and space,” said Jackson.

As noted on local live news outlets, the visitor was in fact Mrs. Obama who surprised seven Gila River Indian Community youth for a roundtable discussion in the Akimel O’otham Room, which is a multipurpose room used for a variety of functions such as meetings and classes.

Mrs. Obama’s staff decided between the Veterans Room and the Akimel O’otham Room as a location for the meeting. The Akimel O’otham Room, where the meeting took place, included two displays of O’otham and Pee Posh basketry and pottery.

Although the staff did not meet Mrs. Obama, images and video of the room and the displays were carried on live television and news coverage of the event. “We worked showed,” said Thomas.

With short notice for the visit, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis was also impressed by the staff who helped prepare for Mrs. Obama, her staff and the media.

“We tried to make it representative of both communities, both tribes within the room,” said Jackson.

The Akimel O’otham Room is a collection of objects from the early 1900s purchased by the Gila River Indian Community. There was also a miniature horsehair basket with a friendship design from the Blackwater Collection. The pottery was from the Arts & Crafts Collection and also a collection purchased from the Denver Art Museum.

“Just want to give a sincere shout out to the Huhugam Heritage Center staff, Shirley Jackson and her staff they made this happen,” said Gov. Lewis. The Heritage Center began receiving phone calls following the visit. “It’s definitely brought us some notoriety,” said Jackson.

The main museum and gallery are currently under construction and will reopen next year. Jackson said, the attention, “is a good way for us to keep telling people we’ll reopen next year in January 2020 and please come visit.”

Gila River Indian News February 15, 2019

Page 8
57TH ANNUAL MUL-CHU-THA ALL INDIAN RODEO

SATURDAY RODEO PERFORMANCES
MARCH 9, 2019 • 1PM AND 6PM

SUNDAY RODEO PERFORMANCE
MARCH 10, 2019 • 1PM

MUL-CHU-THA RODEO GROUNDS • SACATON, AZ

EVENT | LIMIT | FEE | ADDED
--- | --- | --- | ---
Bareback | 20 | $100 | $1,000
Saddle Bronc | 20 | $100 | $1,000
Bull Riding | 40 | $100 | $1,000
Steer Wrestling | 30 | $100 | $1,000
Tie Down Roping | 30 | $100 | $1,000
Ladies Barrel Racing | 30 | $100 | $1,000
Ladies Breakaway | 30 | $100 | $1,000
Ladies Team Roping (2x) | 30 | $200/Team | $2,000
Team Roping (2x) | 100 | $200/Team | $2,000
**Century Team Roping (2x) | 30 | $200/Team | $2,000
**4 Tribes Team Roping | 30 | $200/Team | $2,000

BUCKLES TO EACH EVENT WINNER
BUCKLES & $1,500 PRIZE MONEY TO MENS & WOMENS ALL AROUND

**WILL NOT ** Enter for All-Around. Only the highest placing money won in each event will count towards All-Around. Category. No Rodeo Royalty participants will enter. Males and females. No entry limits. All riders must be a member of Gila River Indian Community. All entries must be postmarked by February 22, 2019. No phone entries. CONTESTANTS MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD TO PARTICIPATE.

A ONE TIME ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $25.00 WILL APPLY PER CONTESTANT.

WALK-IN/MAIL-IN INFORMATION:
ENTRIES OPEN: Thursday January 24, 2019
ENTRIES CLOSE: Wednesday February 13, 2019 at 5pm (mail in entries must be postmarked by close date)
ALL PAYMENTS MUST INCLUDE RODEO CONTESTANT ENTRY FORM. MONEY ORDER OR CASHIER CHECKS ONLY. ALL TEAM ROPING ENTRIES MUST BE MAILED IN ONE ENVELOPE. SINGLE ENTRY FEES WILL NOT BE RECEIVED. MAKE PAYMENT PAYABLE TO: GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

MAIL-IN ENTRIES
Gila River Indian Community c/o Mul-Chu-THA All Indian Rodeo P.O. Box 2110 • Sacaton, AZ • 85147

WALK-IN ENTRIES
Gila River Indian Community: Cashiers Offices
Governance Center: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
932 W. Chicago Rd. • Sacaton, AZ • 85147
DistRICT & Service Center Tuesday & Thursday - 9am-4pm
930 N. St. Johns Rd. • Laveen, AZ • 85339

LATE WALK-INS WILL BE TAKEN ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27th, 2019 • 5:00pm - 7:00pm
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE CENTER CASHIERS OFFICE

NO LATE ENTRIES. NO REFUNDS without an acceptable doctor’s and/or veterinarian’s note. Rodeo Secretary MUST be contacted 24 hours prior to start of rodeo. Contestants may stay in their own age category. Open to all Native Americans with verification of at least 1/4 degree of Indian blood. Contestants must provide proof of Indian Blood and Age upon request by the Rodeo Secretary. NO EXCEPTIONS. All contestants must sign waiver. Event wherein you compete. $5.00, and provided this receipt pay out. ALL PAYOUTS WILL BE VOIDED AFTER 30 DAYS. Internet posting www.mul-chu-tha.com

For More Information: Rodeo Secretary Tonya Silas 520-419-9745 or Special Events Coordinator 520-882-9213 www.mul-chu-tha.com or email mail@gric.net.us

Gila River Indian Community along with Communications & Public Affairs Office shall not be held responsible for bodily injury, death, or damages incurred during the Mul-Chu-Tha Fair and Rodeo.
MUL-CHU-THA
ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP

Saturday
March 9, 2019
8:00 P.M. SHOWTIME

Max Baca and Los Texmaniacs
with special guests
“David Hidalgo” and “Cesar Rosas” of Los Lobos

Find us on facebook.com/gilariver

SPONSORS

WILD HORSE PASS

www.mul-chu-tha.com | Phone: 520.562.9713
MUL-CHU-THA
ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP

Sunday, March 10, 2019
7:30 P.M. SHOWTIME

The Wailers’ Julian Junior Marvin

Find us on facebook.com/gilariver

SPONSORS

www.mul-chu-tha.com | Phone: 520.562.9713
Parade Start Time 9am
Parade begins at Gu U Ki and Bluebird Roads; will travel east on Bluebird Rd., then left on Cholla Rd;
Parade will end at Seed Farm Rd. (See Map).

2019 Mul-Chu-Tha Parade Route

Registration must be submitted to: mctparade@gric.nsn.us
Application Deadline is Wednesday, February 27, 2019 by 5pm
For more parade information please contact: Community Services Department at (520) 562-9691 or Fax: (520) 562-9695

Gila River Indian Community and Communications And Public Affairs Office Shall not be held responsible for bodily injury, theft, or damages incurred during the Mul-Chu-Tha Fair and Rodeo.
ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS

We are seeking Interns for Summer Program 2019

To be considered for the WIOA College Internship Program:
- Be an enrolled GRIC/AK-CHIN member
- Have a higher education degree and/or certificate
- Be enrolled in a college or university as Jr. or Sr.
- Be 3 to 4 Months from graduating from Vocational Training Program

Let us help you get your career started!

Contact Employment & Training (520) 562-3387/88 or email eulonda.martinez@gric.nsn.us

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
Dental Department

CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS
February 4, 2019 - September 30, 2019

EAST ENTRANCE WILL BE CLOSED. PLEASE ACCESS THROUGH THE NEW MAIN ENTRANCE.

Please excuse the dust and noise while we’re improving!

Contact Bob Pablo, Customer Service Department at (520) 562-3321 ext. 1424

GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE

JOB FAIR
LOCATION: TERO EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING DEPT.
WED. FEB. 13TH 1:00 P.M. SACATON, AZ

POSITIONS FOR:
NATIONAL HOT ROD ASSOCIATION
JOBS FOR EVENT ON FEB 22-24:
- GUEST SERVICES • PARKING • ECOLOGY
- Must be able to stand for long periods of time
- Tan/ khaki pants and black t-shirt required on job site
- Applicant must have a current/updated TERO APP or file

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TERO:
520-562-5388 OR EMAIL: IWALANI.ANDREWS@GRIC.KSH.US

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS
We are seeking Interns for Summer Program 2019
Let us help you get your career started!

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- Be an enrolled GRIC/AK-CHIN member
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- Be 3 to 4 Months from graduating from Vocational Training Program

Contact Employment & Training (520) 562-3387/88 or email eulonda.martinez@gric.nsn.us
Drought Contingency Plan moves forward with GRIC interests covered

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Threatened by a 19-year drought, Arizona along with six other states were given the task to develop a plan to conserve more water that comes from the Colorado River by Jan 31.

Arizona uses water from the Colorado River, which also comes from Lake Mead, where nearly 40 percent of Arizona’s water comes from. If water levels in Lake Mead drop to critically low levels, that would mean Arizona could lose up to 17 percent of its water allocation, which is an equivalent of a year’s worth of water for one million households.

Since July 2018, stakeholders from Arizona have been working together to develop the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) which will help to better conserve and reduce Arizona’s water usage and on Jan 31 a bill was signed by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey, approving Arizona’s Drought Contingency Plan just hours before the midnight deadline, which made for a historic legislation.

“The Drought Contingency Plan is the most significant water legislation passed in nearly 40 years - and it was done by putting party labels aside and putting Arizona first,” said Gov. Ducey. GRIC Governor Stephen R. Lewis also signed a deal that allowed the DCP to move forward. The water deal will supply water to the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CA-GRD) that will help developers in Arizona continue to build into the future.

“What’s important about the passage of the DCP, is that the Community interests are covered. It’s about stability for water supplies for the future, for Arizona but also for the Community and our water settlement is protected in the process. That was probably the most significant aspects as it applies to our Community that was just signed into law,” said Gov. Lewis.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

strong adults, our leaders of tomorrow,” said Lewis.

He lauded the schools for their tireless work in providing a quality education for the students, that introduces them to advanced subjects like, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Among Lewis’ talking points was the construction of two schools at opposite ends of the Community in District 1 and District 6.

The new Gila Crossing Community School in District 6 is still under construction and is scheduled to open in July of this year, a year after the school broke ground on the new site.

In District 1, the Blackwater Community School, is also on their way to constructing a new school. “We are at a turning point in our education, we are constructing, and supporting two schools, that are long overdue for new facilities,” said Lewis.

The keynote speaker, Pearl Yellowman, a member of the Navajo Nation, provided insight into her work to promote resiliency within Native communities.

With her background in social work and education, Yellowman has focused on the role culture plays in the development of children, both psychologically and physically. “There’s a value system. How do you know the value system of [your] community?” said Yellowman.

“Things like culture are a value system and within the schools, it’s not an add-on, not an elective, but it’s daily lived experience.”

She said every Native person carries with them, genetic markers that allow them to be resilient in the face of challenges, a term called “blood memory.” Yellowman said it is based on the previous generations experiences, that are embedded in today’s generation to succeed at life.

“There are epigenetic markers that show a traumatic experience has occurred, maybe not in our current times, but in the past [we] had to turn some things (genetic markers) off to survive,” she said. “To reactivate our resiliency, we have to do similar things our ancestors did.”

Along those same lines, Yellowman, said those are the same ways tribal communities, can build individuals, families and schools that promote resiliency.

The summit also included a panel of students who shared their high school and higher education experiences. The students emphasized their role as ambassadors in public schools outside of the Community.

Marlena Whitehair, a 12th grade student at Maricopa High School, said, opportunities like the summit are important, because they, “Ask the youth about our plans for school and seeing if we are on the right track and understanding our opinions is important to their success.”

At school she said, Native students must be a part of the conversation and being a part of classroom activities to etch a presence in a room with people of various ethnicities. Napoleon Marrietta, Indigenous Rights and Social Justice graduate student attending Arizona State University, said going to a big university is challenging when you don’t know the student next to you. Marrietta said it was an opportunity to educate non-Natives about the surrounding culture, and that we still exist in the modern age.

“When you’re in a big school like ASU, at first it was challenging getting to know people, but I found the best way to do that, was making connections with other Natives, especially those from the other O’othman tribes,” said Marrietta. “You form friendships and things just seem to get better from there.”
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • February 6, 2019

ACTION SHEET
Community Council: P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729 CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council was held Wednesday, February 6, 2019, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona, was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:19 a.m.
INVOCATION
Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman RULINGS
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Robert Stone
Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carol Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Barney Enos, Jr., Pamela Johnson; D5- Janice Stewart, Martin Dixon, Lawrence White, Sr., Thomas White; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evan; D7-Devin Redbird (5:31)
APPROVAL OF A GENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
CONSENT AGENDA AS NOTED
APPROVED AS AMENDED
PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)
REPORTS
> 1. Maricopa Village Christian School Annual Report SY2017-2018
Presenter: Patricia Laura
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
> 2. Culture Teachers Gathering 2019
Presenter: Anthony Gray
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
> 3. Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 4th Qtr Expense Reports
Presenter: Chelsey Juan Jr.
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. Department of Housing Development 2014 RHIP Housing Construction Project Report
Presenter: JoAnn Garcia
REPORT HEARD
5. Gila River Boys & Girls Clubs Quarterly Report 2018
Oct – Dec
Presenters: Jason Jones, Soyet Antone, Emiliano Morondos
REPORT HEARD
6. FCC Form 555 Annual Filing
Presenters: GRTI Board of Directors, Courtney Hogan-camp
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
7. CRMP Report - South Mountain Freeway Progress Report
Presenter: Kyle Woodson
REPORT HEARD
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION
8. Gaming Commission General Report to the Community Council for December 2018 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Dale Enos, Courtney Mohay
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK BY CONSENSUS. COUNCILMAN ARZIE HOGG RECONVENCED THE MEETING AT 11:33 A.M.
RESOLUTIONS
* 1. A Resolution Approving A Fifty (50) Year Homestead Assignment Agreement For Logan Miguel Located In District Three Of The Gila River Indian Reservation And Designated As Drawing No. 40318-0314 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Ada Salgado
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
* 2. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Indian Community, Acting Through The Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project (P-MIP), To Enter Into A Title I Contract With The Bureau Of Indian Affairs (BIA)/San Carlos Irrigation Project, Pursuant To The Indian Self Determination And Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-439), To Complete Repair Work On The Pima Lateral And The Southside Canal (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: David DeLong
APPROVED
* 3. A Resolution Approving The Master Participating Agreement Between The United States Department Of Agriculture, Forest Service, And The Gila River Indian Community. Department Of Environmental Quality (G&M-SC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC & CRSC concur)
Presenters: Russell Benford, Dale Ommeneis, Naomi Bebo
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
* 4. Resolution Establishing The Gila River Veterans And Family Services Office To Serve The Veterans Of Gila River Indian Community And Their Family Members And Beneficiaries (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with additional material)
Presenters: Casandra Wallace, Governor Stephen R. Lewis
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 45 To The Gila River Indian Community Project Capital Projects Fund Budget For Fiscal Years 2019 Through 2023 (Executive Session) (G&MSC accepts and forwards to Council with recommendation for approval in Executive Session)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Jones, Executive Office
APPROVED
(COUNCILMAN ARZIE HOGG TURNED THE CHAIR OVER TO GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS)
6. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget Modification No. 1 For Fiscal Year 2019 (Executive Session) (G&MSC approves the salary adjustments as presented and forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with corrections)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Jones, Executive Office
APPROVED
7. A Resolution Amending GR-217-08 The Petition For The Enrollment Of Hope Edesena Garcia Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sheila A. Valenzuela
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
* 8. A Resolution Amending GR-218-08 The Petition For The Enrollment Of Deangela Angelica Garcia Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sheila A. Valenzuela
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
* 9. A Resolution Approving The Relinquishment Of Paul Sydney Rock Krech From The Gila River Indian Community Membership Roll (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sheila A. Valenzuela
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
* 10. Resolution Certifying The Membership Count Of The Gila River Indian Community As Of December 31, 2018 (LSC motioned to forward to Council with a recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sheila A. Valenzuela
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
> 1. Gila River Indian Irrigation Drainage District Board of Directors Appointments (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval the Gila River Indian Irrigation Drainage District Board of Directors (5) Appointments of Donald Antone, Sr., Gwendolyn Thomas and Gina Thomas-Enos)
Presenter: Rodney Jackson
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
> 2. Gila River Indian Irrigation Drainage District Board of Directors Appointments (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Patrice Laura
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
> 3. Education Research Proposals (ESC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
> 4. National Johnson O’Malley Association Conference March 4-6, 2019 Harrah’s Las Vegas Hotel & Casino Las Vegas Nevada (ESC motioned to forward to Council for any interested Council members to attend under Dues and Delegations)
Presenters: Education Standing Committee
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. FY19 First Quarter Report Revenue Internal Audit (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session)
Presenters: Dena Thomas, Treasurer Robert Keller
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT ITEMS #5 & #6
6. FY19 First Quarter Report Gaming Internal Audit (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session)
Presenters: Dena Thomas, Treasurer Robert Keller
APPROVED AT NEW BUSINESS #5
(ADDENDUM TO AGENDA)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION
7. Department of Housing Development 2014 RHIP Housing Construction Project Report
Presenter: JoAnn Garcia
ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
MINUTES
1. January 12, 2018 (Special)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH AMENDMENTS
2. February 21, 2018 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH AMENDMENTS
3. January 16, 2019 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH CORRECTIONS
ANNOUNCEMENTS
> LITIGATION TEAM MEETING, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019, 9AM
> EDUCATION SUMMIT, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019, 9AM, WHP CASINO
ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:33p.m.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
> Denotes CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
**What's New at GRICUA?**

The Pima Leasing & Finance Corporation (PLFC), an investment entity promoting self-sufficiency among the Gila River Indian Community, is currently soliciting proposals from qualified attorneys and law firms familiar with the expansive range of activities that comprise safe teaching and learning environments. PLFC’s operations.

Three years at no cost to the district.

The Coyotes Foundation donation will also fund three new Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEAM) classrooms at the new Gila River Indian Reservation and Community trust land resources within the expansive range of activities that comprise safe teaching and learning environments.

**SUMMOS TO APPEAR IN COURT**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

The Coyotes Foundation will also be supporting the Master Gardening Program (MGP) STEAM program as follows:

- 3rd Annual GRICUA STEAM Summer Program – June 24–28, 2019
- High School and College Summer internships

**Reminders**

- GRICUA Board of Directors – February 13, 2019
- GRICUA will be at District 1 and 2 Services Centers on the following days from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- District 1 – Wednesday, March 6
- District 2 – Wednesday, May 8
- District 3 – Wednesday, July 24

**GRICUA is a member of Arizona Blue Steel.** Please call 1-800-702-8430 to request contact information for either of the two offices of GRICUA.

**GRICUA welcomes your comments.** You can email comments to gricua-comments@gricua.net. You can also go to our website at www.gricua.net.

**GRICUA’s Hours of Operation**

Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Payments are accepted on-line and by mail. We do not accept our normal operating hours as well as afterhours. If you need to schedule afterhours or weekend payment options please call during normal business hours.

**Phoenix Coyotes presented Sacaton Elementary School with $5,000 to support STEAM at their game on February 9, 2019**

FOX Sports was running segments on Saturday featuring the heartwarming story.

The Sacaton Elementary School is located in the Gila River Indian Community and agriculture and farming has been big part of the way of life for the people of the Gila River. The Coyotes Foundation Donations fund will just cover the costs of this amazing STEAM project.

**SUMMOS TO APPEAR IN COURT**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

**The Coyotes Foundation donation will also fund three new STEAM classrooms at the new Gila River Indian Reservation and Community trust land resources within**

**PLFC seeks experienced legal counsel to represent the Community in line with all community members and revenue for businesses within the Community to ensure compliance**

**The Coyotes Foundation donation will also fund three new STEAM classrooms at the new Gila River Indian Reservation and Community trust land resources within**

**SUMMOS TO APPEAR IN COURT**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**
SPEED FOR ALL

STEVE TORRENCE
2018 NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING SERIES
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$15,999 or $259/mo.
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2018 Kia Sportage

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Toyota Camry

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Tournaments • Skate Competition • Frybread Contest
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Special Events: (520) 562-9715 | Email: mulchutha@gric.nsn.us

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE SHALL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR BODILY INJURY, THEFT, OR DAMAGES INCURRED DURING THE MUL-CHU-THA FAIR & RODEO