Gila River Indian Community students begin school year amid pandemic

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) has released its Community COVID-19 data report. The report states there are now 18 deaths related to the pandemic, and 1,064 non-members. The majority of those positive cases reside off the Community. A total of 54,185 tests have been completed. The report also states there are now 18 deaths among Community members. For updates and information regarding the pandemic, text alerts from the Gila River Indian Community are available. Text “GILARIVER” to 79797 to sign up and receive updates on the latest Community COVID-19 data reports, testing information and reminders, important executive orders and more.

With the increase of cases, it is very important to keep you, your family and Community safe not just with the pandemic but also during the extreme summer temperatures. Face masks prevent the spread of COVID-19 but with warmer weather masks can come with warning of heat stroke pose a danger for all ages. Feeling faint or dizzy, excessive sweating, muscle cramps, nausea or vomiting, cool, pale, clammy skin and rapid, weak pulse are signs of heat exhaustion. Move to a cool, air conditioned place, drink water, take a cool shower or use a cold compress. Untreated heat exhaustion could lead to a heat stroke. Symptoms of heat stroke are throbbing headache, no sweat, nausea, vomiting, rapid pulse, hot dry skin, may lose consciousness and body temperatures above 103. Anyone experiencing these symptoms must seek medical help and keep cool until treated.

GRIC launches Operation Stay-At-Home with Executive Order

On Aug. 4, the Community’s Tribal Health Department released another COVID-19 data report. There are now 1,815 positive cases of COVID-19. Of those positive, 751 are Community members and 1,064 non-members. The majority of those positive cases reside off the Community. A total of 54,185 tests have been completed. The report also states there are now 18 deaths among Community members. For updates and information regarding the pandemic, text alerts from the Gila River Indian Community are available. Text “GILARIVER” to 79797 to sign up and receive updates on the latest Community COVID-19 data reports, testing information and reminders, important executive orders and more.

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Gila Crossing Crossing Community School started distance learning as well as other GRIC schools, Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community has extended stay-at-home orders until Sept. 7, 2020. The Gila River Police Department have begun conducting “operation stay-at-home” with officers now enforcing the stay-at-home order every weekend until further notice. GRPD officers will be issuing citations for anyone in violation of the Community’s stay-at-home order and warnings will not be given. The strict approach is for the safety of everyone in the Community. Face masks are still required in the Community.

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HEALTH ALERT
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Upcoming District Testing Dates:
In an effort to contain the spread of COVID-19, GRHC is following the CDC’s recommendation for conducting COVID-19 testing on a recurring basis.
All GRIC members, and those residing within the GRIC boundaries, who have previously tested negative and who have no symptoms – should get retested.
Note: If you have not been tested and have no symptoms, you should be tested at a district service center.

Dist. 1 ... Aug. 11 - Aug. 13 • Times : 9 am - 1 pm & 5 pm - 7 pm
Dist. 2 ... Aug. 18 - Aug. 20 • Times : 9 am - 1 pm & 5 pm - 7 pm

For test result information, please call: (602) 528-3378
For general info about the Coronavirus, go to GRHC.org/Coronavirus
GRHC Coronavirus Hotline (520) 550-6079

How to Reduce Stress during COVID-19
The feelings related to stress are manageable. Here are a few tips for managing stress:

- Connect with family and friends in other homes through phone calls or video chat.
- Exercise by taking walks, stretching, in-home workout, jogging, etc.
- Attend spiritual service through the internet or TV
- Share seasonal traditional activities or foods
- Art: paint, play or listen to music, do beadwork, sew, dance
- Do a word search, Sudoku or crossword puzzle
- Limit social media and news watching
- Relaxation exercises: deep breathing and meditation
- Audiobooks, podcast, reading
- Laughter

If you are experiencing loss, anxiety or stress...we are here for you.
Call the COVID Anxiety and Stress Helpline: (602) 528-7122. Free, Confidential, 24/7 Support

SCHOOL PHYSICALS & IMMUNIZATION REMINDER
Taking Appointments Now!
To schedule an appointment, call HHKMH 520-562-3321 ext. 1495, or for KHC 520-550-6060

Reminder! Gila River Health Care’s Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics will be
CLOSED MONDAY, 9/7/2020 - LABOR DAY
CLOSED FRIDAY, 9/18/2020 - NATIVE AMERICAN DAY

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449
OPERATION STAY AT HOME

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis extended the “Stay at Home” provisions of Executive Order No. 6 to remain in effect through September 7, 2020. Individuals within GRIC Boundaries of the Gila River Indian Reservation shall limit their time away from their place of residence or property except for essential activities.

Why is this “Stay at Home” executive order necessary?
The Community has seen a surge in COVID-19 cases similar to that of the State overall. We have had 17 members die from this disease. Community must take action to preserve the health and safety of the Gila River Indian Community and its members.

What does this executive order mean?
Unless you are engaged in an “essential activity,” you must stay at home. Staying at home is the best and easiest way to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

What is an “essential activity”? The executive order lists essential activities. “Back to school” activities, including obtaining homework or instructional packets or meals for school-age children are considered essential activities.

What happens if I violate the Stay at Home executive order?
Citations will be issued by the Police Department and offenders could face up to 30 days in jail and a fine of up to $500. There will be no warnings issued.

What will I be cited for if I violate the Stay at Home Order?

What if a non-member violates this executive order?
Non-members will be cited for “Civil Trespass” under GRIC Code section 8.203 and removed from the Community.

What happens if I violate the executive order?
There will be no warnings issued.

What should I do if I observe what I believe to be a violation of the Stay at Home executive order?
Call the Police Department non-emergency line at 520-562-4511

Do I still have to wear a mask?
Yes. Executive Order No. 8, which requires protective face masks to be worn, is still in effect. You can contact your District Service Center to request a face mask.

Will I be pulled over for just driving on the roadways?
No, not for just traveling on the roadways. If, however, you are committing a traffic violation or crime that would be enforced independent of the executive order, you may be stopped, like any other day and subsequently asked about possible executive order violations.

Will there be roadblocks?
No.

Do I still have to wear a mask?
Yes. Starting this weekend, and every weekend until further notice, GRPD will be conducting “Operation Stay at Home.” This will consist of a special task force of police officers who will be specifically assigned each weekend night, Friday to Sunday, with enforcing the Stay at Home executive order.

Do I still have to wear a mask?
Yes. Executive Order No. 8, which requires protective face masks to be worn, is still in effect. You can contact your District Service Center to request a face mask.

Health and wellness goes virtual in Wellness Center run

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Wellness Center wrapped-up their first virtual run and walk encouraging families and individuals to participate from July 16-19. The Wellness Center organized a virtual run to promote physical activity while social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We drew our inspiration from huge runs that you see on social media” said Tiffany Boni, Wellness Center, Health Education Specialist. Participants connected with the other runners while accomplishing fitness goals in a virtual setting.

“At first, it was about doing something for the Fourth of July and still coming together, even if we are apart, to give each other that feeling we are not alone,” said Boni.

The event drew over 90 participants, who were required to submit a photo along with a screen shot of their completed activity.

“A majority of them were from the Community and others, that were non-members, even from Nebraska,” said Boni. The Wellness Center offers events similar to the virtual run that promotes healthy activity such as an on-going wellness challenge, and a lunch hour fitness class is streamed via Zoom by a Wellness Center instructor. The Wellness Center is looking at ways to modify upcoming annual events such as the “Trail of Doom.”

The goal, is to keep Community members active during the pandemic by providing them opportunities to stay active.

Boni said people can stay motivated and active in several ways and events like the Virtual Run can help families maintain their health and wellness.
Tribes discuss importance of accurate Census count for 2020

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

During a recent panel discussion on July 21, representatives from tribal communities and the Census Bureau discussed the initiatives to encourage participation in the upcoming 2020 Census. Tribal leaders joined via phone conference to outline their Census programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cathy Lacy, U.S. Census Bureau Regional Director, said educating tribal members about the importance of being counted during the upcoming census count is critical.

“When we talk about the census, it comes down to power, knowledge, and money as we look at the situation with COVID-19 and the other challenges on tribal nations,” said Lacy.

She said all three categories are important for tribal members and how federal dollars going back to tribal nations is crucial and are based on the census count. “They should understand how they are all affected and why being accurately counted is important for services like public safety, housing and public transportation,” said Lacy.

Similarly, in the Gila River Indian Community, 2020 Census questionnaires have been mailed to Community members, including options for them to submit their responses online or by phone. According to census.gov, the Census Bureau has been working closely with tribal governments to change the trend groups who have had a history of being undercounted during the census. “As part of this effort, census takers are set to go household to household and drop off census materials at front doors in tribal communities,” according to census.gov.

Jamie Azure, Chairman for the Turtle Mountain Band Chipewa Indians, attributed low census counts to the historical trauma of the government and his tribe. “It stems back to the historical trauma and the history of distrust against the federal government, but it also comes down to education about the census,” said Azure.

“The census is especially important for tribal communities with three to four generations living in the same household.”

Azure said his tribe was severely undercounted in the 2020 census, which had an impact on the amount of distribution of CARES Act funds to his tribe this year. Azure added the numbers are critical especially for a tribe with 32,000 enrolled members and 15,000 of them residing on the reservation, which creates a condensed population with multiple needs.

Like Azure, Bradley Gernand, Senior Communications Specialist for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, said the Choctaw Nation was also undercounted. “The Choctaw Nation in 2010 was undercounted. Of around 226,000 members scattered across 50 states, only 20 percent of our members were counted as being part of the Choctaw Nation. It had severe consequences on our federal funding,” said Gernand.

He said the outcome of the 2010 Census was an impetus for a more accurate count in 2020. Gernand said the COVID-19 pandemic has not stymied the Choctaw Nation’s drive to support internal efforts for the 2020 Census.

“The tribe went ahead to fund a promotion campaign, because the tribal elders feel it’s important to allocate money to such a cause and not ‘pimp pennies,’” he said.

Azure said his tribe was also investing in census promotion campaigns amid the pandemic because there is an understanding that the next 10 years will be determined by this year’s count. “We understand how it’s going to affect the next generations of our people, so [we] look at it from a visionary aspect.”

For tribes coping with the effects of historical trauma, Azure said, “How do you inspire a nation?” Tell them that you can’t do something or tell them that they are excluded, that’s how you’re going to get people to stand up and be counted.”

### Why is the census important?

Census information is used to determine and update district lines at all levels of government, decides how many congressional seats each state receives and decides where $600-900 billion dollars will be used to fund programs for public safety, education, health care and more! By responding you help provide an accurate count of our Community.

### Is the census safe?

The census is safe, your responses cannot be shared with any other person, business, law enforcement agency or government agency for any reason.

### How do I respond?

One person completes the form, count everyone living in your home include newborns, relatives and friends.

Return the completed questionnaire by mail using the self-addressed stamped envelope or use the unique 12-digit code on your questionnaire to respond online at www.census.gov or by phone (844) 330-2020.

If you received your questionnaire in the mail use your address for online or phone response.

0000-0000-0000

### Will a census worker come to my home?

Beginning in August, census workers will go door-to-door to count people who have not responded.

Census workers will carry census identification badges and will follow Community health guidelines, Executive Orders, and practice social distancing.

For more information about the 2020 Census visit www.census.gov or contact Sheila Valenzuela (520) 562-9795
AAGA

Something to be told or talked about

By Billy Allen

“...to recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the longstanding history that has brought you to reside on the land. And so reads the LSPIRG, an organization which helps develop advocacy tools and avenues for action. Props to Sparky and the Sun Devils as Arizona State University who acknowledged that their four facilities sit upon our ancestral lands. Before Gila River (Akimel O’odham),

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The Akimel O’odham/Ak-Chin Indian Community, using the pandemic to reframe education, held the third annual Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Conference using Zoom. AOPPYC Youth Coordinator Michael Preston said, “We wanted to use stories of overcoming significant obstacles in the past to inspire the youth, and to remind them that they are not alone from strong people and no matter the threat, we will overcome it.”

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis cited the theme’s importance for the youth in his address. “Through drought, land loss, illness, and encroachment, our history is full of examples of the resilience of how our Community comes together to face challenges. And how we take the long-term approach to crisis knowing we have the perseverance to overcome it if we all stand together,” said Gov. Lewis.

The virtual version of the youth conference featured speakers, presentations, youth council elections and activities with prerecorded media used to enhance the two-day agenda.

Thosh Collins from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and the co-founder of Wellness for Culture and Sr. Trainer for Native Wellness Institute was the keynote speaker. His presentation focused on introducing and teaching the “Seven Circles of Wellness,” which include food, sleep, movement, purposefulness, sacred space, connection to the Earth, and kinship.

Even though the conference was virtual, it still had the same good energy, and I could tell that the participants enjoyed it, said Crystal Lomasneywa, District 3 Representative. District 2 Representatives Susanna Osife said, “I enjoyed the speakers, including Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, who shared a message of encouragement towards youth and how important learning from others is and carrying it with us.”

Osife also mentioned that there was still a sense of unity for the online users during the conference. “I learned that even though we couldn’t physically be in one place. Together we are still a community that will never be divided,” said Osife.

At-Large member, Jr. Miss Gila River Sineca Jackson gained useful information from an educational workshop she attended. “Personally, and professionally, I will be taking all that knowledge from the presenters and applying it to my education within the next year and I start looking at applying for college,” said Jackson.

Long distance participation is one advantage of a virtual conference. ‘Ootham youth from outside the state streamed and participated this year as well as youth from SRP/MC, Ak-Chin Indian Community and the Tohono O’odham Nation.

Miss Hopi Aon Albert attended and was also impressed by the AOPPYC and encouraged their work with the youth.

Keep up all of the amazing work you’re doing and continue to be proud of who you are and where you come from,” said Albert.

As Camelback Mountain was being changed, the Huhugam have passed tribal boundaries. (Onk Akimel), lived along the Salt River to a large Huhugam settlement, or “walked” along the sides of the hole, hitting markers during key seasonal changes. (The markers are gone now because disrespectful people took or destroyed them!) A diagram was included which showed 37 mound sites or villages east and west of Hole-in-the-Rock which were all visible. The site is considered sacred by the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community.

Dr. Omar Turner worked for the city of Phoenix and in 1922 surveyed and mapped Huhugam canals along the O’odham Akimel. It came to his attention that a cave in the Camelback Mountains might have had ties with the Huhugam, water, and canals. In 1959, an Arizona State University archeology class excavated the cave and confirmed the cave had been used for religious purposes. Camelback Mountain could be referred to as the “oldest church” in the Salt River Valley.

All mountains are special, but some are more prominent. Today O’odham songs and stories mention such places. South Mountain (S-moak) is best translated as Greasy Mountain. (The story behind such stories can only be told during the winter). O’odham have passed tribal resolutions designating South Mountain as a sacred place/traditional cultural property.

As we circle back to ASU, Hayden Butte (Oidbad Do’ag) better known as “A” mountain, sits next to Sun Devil stadium. The butte is covered with over 500 petroglyphs created by Huhugam. At the base of Hayden Butte was a small Huhugam settlement, renamed La Plaza. It was excavated when the light rail transportation center was being built.

Life is change. The Huhugam had to adjust. We’re always adapting to changing times. Educational institutions can help guide our steps into the future. ASU “woke” with the acknowledgment of debt to O’odham and all Natives. It will be exciting to see how the statement is put into action.


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## AUGUST 2020 Schedule

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- Fitness: Fitness Videos on Facebook @ 12pm & Fitness Classes on Zoom
- Wellness Education: Wellness Education Videos on Facebook
- Sports: Sports Trivia & Sports Skills Videos on Facebook (5:30pm)
- Distribution Date
- Program Events

### ZOOM ELDER FITNESS DAYS
**MONDAY & FRIDAYS**
**8AM-8:45AM**

### Upcoming Activities

**Fitness**
- Zoom Fitness Kits (strength, yoga, mobility, etc)
- Virtual Step Challenge
- Family Bike Distribution
- Elder Workout DVD kits
- Facebook Workout DVD
- Summer Wellness Challenge

**Sports**
- Family Sports Kits
- Virtual Sports Challenges
- Virtual Sports Trivia
- Virtual Sports Tournaments

**Health Education**
- Nutrition Zoom Classes
- Cooking Zoom Classes
- Blender Series w/Zoom
- Various live Wellness demos and trivia

_all activities are subject to change as deemed necessary by Tribal Recreation and Wellness. Details and dates will be announced as they become available._

To be added to our email list for up to date information, email: wellness.center@gric.nsn.us
Information is also available on Facebook, mygilariver and GRBC tv.
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • July 15, 2020

**ACTION SHEET**

Community Council: P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

**CALL TO ORDER**
The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, July 15, 2020, by WebEx platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:00 a.m.

**INVOCATION**
Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

**ROLL CALL**
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Executive Officers Absent: Lt Governor Robert Stone
Council Members Present: D1- Joey Whitman, Azrie Hogg; D3- Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith (8/13); D5- James De La Rosa; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terence Evans; D7- Devin Redbird
Council Members Absent: D2- Carrol Schurz; D5- Martin Dixon, Thomas White, Vacant

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #8 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS RESOLUTIONS**

1. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Natasha Olivia Antone Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Carmen Grace Justine Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Laurie Jeanette Thomas Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Richard Dale Milda Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. A Resolution Approving The Memorandum Of Agreement Between The Inter Tribal Council Of Arizona, Inc. And The Gila River Indian Community For Arizona Native Census Project Funding (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; G&MSC concurs)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. A Resolution Approving The Fiscal Year 2021 Gila River Indian Community Indian Housing Plan For Implementation And Submittal To The United States Department Of Housing And Urban Development (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Laura Thomas

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. A Resolution Approving The Amended COVID-19 Business Interruption Grant Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections)

Presenter: Jason Hauer

APPROVED

8. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Special Community Council Election For District Five (LSC forwards to Council for approval to waive the Election Ordinance, the District Five nomination process and declare the position vacant and call for an election within 60 days)

Presenter: Nadine Schiele

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE ELECTION ORDINANCE, THE DISTRICT FIVE NOMINATION PROCESS AND DECLARE THE POSITION VACANT AND CALL FOR AN ELECTION WITHIN 60 DAYS

MINUTES

1. June 26, 2020 (Special)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. July 1, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ GRIC TASKFORCE UPDATE REGARDING FUNDRAISING SERVICES
~ SPECIAL IOPC MEETING FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2020
~ GRIC FURLough UPDATE

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:28 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

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**NOTICE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND LEASE FOR BID**

**Property Type:** Agricultural Acres: 165 Tribal Farmable Acres

**Features:** Last Farmed 10 years prior

**Location:** Northwest Corner of Sacaton Rd and Canal Street

**Pre-Bid Meeting:** August 21, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. on site

**BIDS MUST BE SEALED & SUBMITTED BY September 4, 2020 AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS 2:00 P.M.**

For additional information:
Contact - Shelby Francisco
Office: 520-796-2454 or Shelby.francisco@theplfc.com

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for the renewal of the air quality operating permits for the following facilities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility Name</th>
<th>Facility Type</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rock Solid Concrete</td>
<td>Concrete batch plant</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanson Plant #35</td>
<td>Concrete batch plant</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gila River Sand &amp; Gravel – Makopka Plant</td>
<td>Sand &amp; gravel mine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilson Plant</td>
<td>Concrete batch plant</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mound Forming</td>
<td>Sand &amp; gravel mine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfur Oxides (SOx)</td>
<td>Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Sulfur Dioxide (SO2), Particulate Matter (PM), Particulate Matter &lt;10 Microns (PM10), Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any person may submit a written comment or a request to the DEQ to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of receiving oral or written comments on the proposed permits. Existing permits are scheduled for renewal on the following dates:

- August 1, 2020

Requests and written comments may be submitted by mail to:
Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality
Ryan Estes
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147

For further information or to schedule an in-person review, please contact Ryan Estes at (520) 796-3781 / ryan.estes@gric.nsn.us.

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**COURT HEARING**

**IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT**

**STATE OF ARIZONA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA KAY VAVAGES

CASE NUMBER: PR-2018-0069-DE

**CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING**

Please take notice that a(n) Review Hearing has been scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. Petitioner, Angelica Michelle Molal, is ordered to appear for a Review. Failure to appear will result in a Civil Bench Warrant being issued. This matter has been scheduled at the place and time set forth below.

**TIME AND DATE:** Monday, October 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

**LOCATION:** 221 W. Smith Street, Gila River Community Court

**For additional information:**
Contact - Angelica Molal
Office: (520) 796-2034

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For additional information:
Contact - Shelby Francisco
Office: 520-796-2454 or Shelby.francisco@theplfc.com

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For additional information:
Contact - Shelby Francisco
Office: 520-796-2454 or Shelby.francisco@theplfc.com
GRIC member will teach virtual AIS intro course at TOCC

Siiki Knox  
Gila River Indian News  

A educational opportunity for Community members will be available this fall from Tohono O’odham Community College. Courses are being offered free of charge to Native American students. One particular course offered will be taught by Community member Siiki Siiki, from Hashain Kehi, through their online Intro to American Indian Studies (AIS 101) course.

At the beginning of the year, Siiki taught the first in-person TOCC course in the Community in his home district. The partnership with the Community’s Tribal Education Department and Community proved decisive, and he looks forward to offering the course again for more students this fall. Siiki said, “The most gratifying part of this is that I’m able to use my degree in the community where I was born and raised and teaching my own relatives.”

Siiki has a Master’s in American Indian Studies from the University of Arizona and currently works as the Phoenix area coordinator for Tohono O’odham Community College. His role is to help support new and current students with enrollment, registration, and student support. Siiki is proud to put his degree to work and encourages Community members to take advantage of this opportunity. The AIS course will be virtual and will require students to attend live webinars at a designated time. The course will mostly likely be offered Tuesday evenings as it was last semester with Siiki hoping to accommodate schedules for anyone who works during the day.

The course covers an array of topics including American Indian history, European colonization, decolonization, American policies, boarding schools and their affects in Native communities. Throughout the course instruction, he also emphasizes O’odham heritage and language.

Guest speakers and presenters are also part of the curriculum to provide a deeper understanding of the content.

Cost-free courses from TOCC may only be this coming fall.

REMINDER:
In order to change amendments to the Constitution, Article XVII states -

“Proposed amendments will be approved by a majority vote of the registered voters of the Community voting in an election called for the purpose by the Election Board, provided that at least thirty (30) percent of the registered voters vote in such election.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPECIAL ELECTION, PLEASE VISIT:  
MYGILARIVER.COM/index.php/special-election-2020

Introduction to American Indian Studies  
AIS 101-Fall 2020

Starting: August 24th, 2020  
Tuesdays 6:00-8:30 P.M.

This class will be held virtually to help stop the spread of COVID-19

This course introduces the student to American Indian Studies and focuses on providing an awareness of indigenous issues and sovereignty. The main goal is to understand American Indian Studies as an important piece in solving issues in Indian country and to promote awareness of the colonization/decolonization process affecting indigenous nations.

Register with: Jiivik Siiki  
jsiiki@tocc.edu  
(520) 993-3023

Hosted by:  
TOCC.edu
2020 DRIVE-IN GRADUATION CEREMONY
AT WILD HORSE PASS MOTORSPORTS PARK
Showtimes:
Tuesdays @ 11:30am, Thursdays @ 6:30pm & Saturdays @ 3:30pm

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