Gov. Lewis testifies to extend U.S. Census count deadline

The census count would be greatly affected if deadline not extended says Gov. Lewis

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis testified before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Reform on Sept. 10, urging the federal government to give more time in the 2020 Census Count which has been shortened from the end of October to Sept. 30.

The census count was briefly suspended in March out of concern for the safety of enumerators (census takers), related to COVID-19. In April the Census Bureau put out a revised timeline of concluding operations at the end of October, but a subsequent decision to shorten the count by a month has caused concern among under counted communities across the nation.

“The Community supports [this] committee’s efforts to extend the census field operations to Oct. 31, 2020,” said Gov. Lewis.

He said an accurate census is critical to the community because it impacts healthcare, public safety, youth and elder programs and efforts to curb violence against Indigenous people.

“We have reason to be concerned that an accurate count will not occur if the Census Bureau ends field operations at the end of this month,” said Gov. Lewis.

“The current self-response rate of the Gila River Indian Community is at 10.1 percent. That means if the census were to end today, 2,200 of our over 22,000 tribal members would be counted,” said Lewis.

He added, many other tribal communities would also fall below an acceptable response rate. Gov. Lewis joined J. Christopher Mihm, Managing Director, Government Accountability Office and Stacey Carless, Executive Director for North Carolina Counts Coalition.

A majority of the speakers expressed concerns that the reduced time would not provide an accurate count of all households, limiting communities from receiving critical federal funds.

“An undercounted census will directly harm states and therefore people across this country,” said Rep. Carolyn Maloney, Chairwomen of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

She said there is a direct harm in not counting everyone, especially in states like Arizona with hard to count populations.

Maloney said several state representatives from both sides of the aisle have spoken out, fearing their states’ populations will not be counted in time for the Sept. 30 deadline.

“"We cannot have an accurate census using the current schedule, the coronavirus crisis has made that impossible.” John H. Thompson, former Director of the Census Bureau.

Gov. Lewis concluded his remarks to the Committee by stating, “We have the right for our voices to be heard. The tribal members of the Gila River Indian Community count.”

Gov. Lewis further remarked that “anything other than the full and accurate census count is a deliberate undermining of our tribal communities. And that is not only unacceptable, it is unconscionable.”

Honoring Chief Azul’s Legacy Continues Despite COVID-19

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

This year’s Chief Azul Run encouraged over 130 runners from the Community to honor the Community’s last hereditary Chief of the Akimel O’otham. The in-person Chief Azul run usually coincides with the Chief Azul Day, which celebrates Chief Antonio Azul with a procession in District 3. The procession routes from Chief Azul’s homestead near the Matthew B. Juan and Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park and ending at his gravesite at the Sacaton west cemetery.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the traditional gathering to honor Chief Antonio Azul was paused this year. Although one aspect of the celebration did occur this year, the Chief Azul Run, which was virtual.

Chief Azul Planning Committee shared what the Chief Azul Day typically looks like stating, “The event would consist of physical instilling of knowing where the Chief Azul home site was and the comradery of those wanting to show respect through a morning blessing, gathering, procession, marching with flag raising, traditional singing and dancing, military honors, wreath-laying, and words from relatives and those that have lineage from all sister tribes now gathering at the gravesite.”

As mentioned with the military honors and flag raising, the event also honors Azul’s military service. Readers may remember Azul was mustered into service in 1850, as a part of the U.S. Army. During the Civil War, the Army Honor Guard was established and Azul served as a member. Azul was later commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1866.

The event also honors members of the Chief Azul Virtual Run and Walk.

The virtual run was held for a week from Aug. 28 to Sept. 4, requiring runners to complete their 2 miles or 5K and provide proof to receive the Commemorative Chief Azul T-shirt.

Members of the Chief Azul Planning Committee were in attendance for the distribution. They handed out literature about the history and contributions of Chief Azul to accompany the shirt.

Lt. Governor Robert Stone was in attendance for the shirt distribution. Lt. Gov Stone said, “It’s terrific to see everyone today and always good to see the Community continue with their physical activity and honor the history of Chief Azul.”

“Burrito” Lewis, District 3, ran the 5K this year and completed the run over two days. “I broke the run into two days because my son, who’s five-years-old, wanted to run it with me.” The opportunity to run on your own time was encouraging.

This year’s Chief Azul Run was made possible by the Committee and supporters of Chief Azul Day made up of: Darrell Whitman, David Anderson, Anthony Newkirk, Pacer Reina, and Pamela Thompson, the Veterans and Family Services Office, and Haskell Osife – Antone Post 51, in addition to the Tribal Recreation and Wellness Center.

The committee “thanks the Wellness Center for assisting the Committee and for a job well done.”
Flu vaccines are available to GRHC patients, GRIC members, those living within the GRIC boundaries, and members of federally recognized tribal communities only.

### Lone Butte Casino
- 9/21 Mon.... 7 am - 7 pm
- 9/22 Tues.... 7 am - 7 pm
- 9/23 Wed.... 7 am - 7 pm

### Sacaton Head Start
- 9/24 Thurs..... 8 am - 2 pm

### Sacaton Post Office
- 9/21 Mon....... 9 am - 11 am

### D1 Service Center
- 9/23 Wed....... 9 am - 12 pm
- 9/26 Sat......... 9 am - 12 pm (D1 Old Serv. Center / The Annex)

### Vee Quiva Casino
- 9/24 Thurs..... 10 am - 2 pm

### D6 Service Center
- *(COVID Testing Blitz)*
  - 9/29 Tues.... 9 am - 1 pm
  - 9/30 Wed.... 9 am - 1 pm
- 9/29 Tues.... 5 pm - 7 pm
- 9/30 Wed.... 5 pm - 7 pm

### Drive Thru (Casa Blanca Rd & Preschool Rd.)
- 9/30 Wed....... 10 am - 1 pm

### D2 Service Center
- 9/30 Wed....... 10 am - 1 pm
- 9/30 Wed....... 9 am - 12 pm

### School Physicals & Immunization Reminder
To schedule an appointment, call HHKMH 520-562-3321 ext. 1495, or for KHC 520-550-6060

YOU GOT THIS, MOM.
AND WE’RE HERE TO HELP!

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY WIC
520.562.9698
Corner of Pima & Sacaton Roads, Sacaton, AZ

ITCA WIC provides healthy food, nutrition education and breastfeeding guidance to thousands of moms and children. If you are pregnant, a caregiver, mom or dad with children under 5, you can get personalized support for your family.

EASY SHOPPING!

eWIC makes shopping easy with a debit card to buy WIC foods at the store.

GRHC.ORG/FLU

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449

ITCAonline.com/WIC
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(520) 562-9715
www.gricnews.org

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Do You Need Your High School Diploma?
Do You have a child that is Prenatal to 4 years of age?
Then you need the FACE Program!!!
If your answers are “YES” to these questions. You need to enroll yourself into our “FACE PROGRAM!!”
We are located at the Casa Blanca Community School.
You can call them at (520)315-3489 and ask for anyone in the FACE Program. We can assist you on how to enroll.
HOME-BASE (PRENATAL TO AGE 3, Virtual) AND CENTER-BASE (FACE PRESCHOOL, Virtual)

DOCUMENTS YOU WILL NEED
1. Birth Certificate for you and child
2. Immunization Records for you and child
3. Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) for you and your child

WE CAN CHANGE YOUR FUTURE!
WE CAN GIVE YOU A CHANCE AT A BETTER FULFILLED LIFE!!!
WE CAN HELP!! PLEASE CALL US AT (520)315-3489.
THANK YOU!!!
“S-” words in Akimel O’otham

O’otham ñeok includes a group of words with unique properties that set them apart from other words in our language. These words are unique in that they can be used as both verbs and adjectives depending on the way you form and speak a sentence. For example, if you wanted to talk about a car that is blue, you can say the following: “I:tha kalith ‘o s-che:thag.” (This is the car.) In this sentence what you are literally saying is "This car is blue." (This car is blue.), using the word "s-che:thag" (blue) as if it were a verb. Both forms are correct. Another way to say this sentence is the following: “I:tha ‘o vuḍ ge s-che:thag kalith.” (This is a blue car.) In this example, although similar, differs in that you use the same word "s-che:thag" as an adjective, just like in the English translation. O’otham has a large number of these "s" words, which share this trait of being able to stand in place as either a verb as well as an adjective when needed. Many words that can be used to describe a quality, attribute or property are included in this group. This includes all the basic color words we are familiar with: s-chuk, s-thoa:, s-ua:m, s-che:thag, s-veg, and s-ko:mag. There are words that describe taste: s-he’ek ‘sour’, s-io’ov ‘sweet’ and s-onk ‘salty.’ Some words describe dimension: che:vach ‘long, tall’, ge’ej ‘big’ and shopolk ‘short.’ Finally, some words describe properties of objects: s-kavk ‘hard’, s-moik ‘soft’, and s-mu’uk, ‘sharp/pointed.’ Not all of these words begin with an initial s- sound, as we see with the words describing color. "S-" words in Akimel O’otham or state of the orange. In the second example the “s-he’ek” is an adjective describing the type of orange you picked up (a "sour orange") Valencia orange as opposed to a "sweet orange" Navel orange). Another property that these s- words share, is how they drop their initial s- sound, when you use the "pi" (is not) negative form of the sentence. This happens when you want to say something is not sour; is not sweet; is not red; is not sharp, etc. In these cases, you always drop the initial s- sound when the word is being used as a verb. Going back to our original example if you wanted to say that the car is not blue you could say the following: “I:tha kalith ‘o pi che:thag.” (This car is not blue.) or "Pi ‘o che:thag i:tha kalith.” (Blue this car is not.) Both forms are correct. Notice that when the s- word is negated it loses its initial s- sound. This is something that happens consistently with all s- type words. Remember that the negative word "pi" (is not) is the indicator to drop the s- before the word. We encourage you to speak O’otham in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or speaker and see how they use the s- words when talking about things. Using s- words may be slightly different between villages. This month’s word match will test your knowledge of s- words. A special Thank You to Vah-ki Elders for sharing their knowledge of O’otham ñeok that made this article possible.

ATTENTION GRIC VETERANS
The Veteran & Family Services office of Gila River Indian Community wants you to “Think Safe and Be Safe” during this COVID-19 pandemic. Please follow the community guidelines and “MASK UP”. If any veteran is in need of masks, please contact our office. We have some for you!
Call or stop in to our office Monday thru Friday 8am to 5pm

The Veteran & Family Services Office is located at 291 W. Casa Blanca Road, Bldg #1 Sacaton, Arizona
Main Office: 520-562-3389
Darrell Whitman - Peer Support Specialist: 520-610-2037
Wesley Rhodes - Peer Support Specialist: 520-520-610-4384
Eric White - Veteran Service Office: 520-610-8793
Samantha Jackson - Administrative Assistant: 520-610-5135
Page 6
Gila River Indian News
September 18, 2020

Gila River Indian Community continues with testing and coronavirus precautions

OBIITUARY

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis released a video update on Sept. 11 on the latest COVID-19 reports. With routine testing, a total of 78,234 tests have been done, this is a significant number of tests and we continue to work to make sure testing turnaround times decrease while we increase our testing capacity,” said Gov. Lewis. He also stated the number of positive cases reached 2,020; 840 Community members and 1,180 non-Community members as of Sept. 15. Positive cases remain high for young adults, according to data reports from the Tribal Health Department with 209,907 positive cases in the state as of Sept. 17. “We need to keep the measures that we know are working,” said Gov. Lewis as the Gila River Indian Community continues to enforce the stay-at-home order and face mask mandate. The flu season is also a concern as Gov. Lewis encouraged getting the flu shot. The flu and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses and symptoms and can be similar. Both viruses can spread from person-to-person when a person with the virus coughs or sneezes and can be spread before symptoms appear. Fever, cough, shortness of breath, muscle pain or body aches, and headache are both symptoms of the viruses. It is important to stay home if you are sick and monitor your symptoms. COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild to severe and may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and include fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. The virus is mostly spread through respiratory droplets when a sick person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Seek medical attention if you have trouble breathing, persistent chest pain and cough, or need to visit a hospital. Continue to wear a mask when you are in public. Face masks, when worn correctly, can protect you and others from spreading COVID. A person can be infected and not show any symptoms and spread the virus without knowing it. Be sure that the mask covers both your nose and mouth and is secure. Maintain physical distance at least of 6-feet, wash your hands regularly or use hand sanitizer when available and clean frequently touched surfaces. Routine testing for COVID-19 is available at the Community and Gila River Health Care will now offer test shots available for GRIC patients, GRIC members, anyone living within GRIC boundaries, and anyone part of a federally recognized tribe. For more information on COVID-19 testing, flu shots and a schedule of visits, you can go online to grh.gov/coronavirus and grh.gov/flu.

Contact tracing is being used by health departments to prevent the spread of infectious disease. A contact tracer from the health department will contact you to obtain the names and phone numbers of close contacts. Your name will not be revealed to those who may have exposed, even if they ask.

WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

Identify close contacts

COVID-19 testing, flu

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS
Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • September 2, 2020

ACTION SHEET
Community Council; P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9725

CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council was held Wednesday, September 2, 2020, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:08 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Monica Antone

ROLL CALL
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-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith; D5-James De La Rosa, Martin Dixon, Thomas Whiparella Jr.; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird
Council Members Absent:
D5-Vacant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #7 AND RESOLUTION #1 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1 THROUGH #4 AND #6; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #2 THROUGH #9 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED
PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

Presenters: Board of Directors, Miane Gonzales, Jim Meyers

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. General Land Use Plan Kick-Off
Presenters: Corrina Ortiz, Kimberly Antone

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Updated Off Reservation Boarding School Count 2020 And Reopening Plans
Presenter: Ivy Namingha

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. Request To Amend Approved Research re Collection Assessment Of The Digital Recorder Repository Containing The Official Records The Gila River Indian Community Council
Presenter: Isaac Salcido, Tammie Morago

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Presenter: Elizabeth Antone

REPORT HEARD

>6. GRTI 2Q 2020 Update
Presenters: GRTI Board of Directors, James Meyers, Jennifer Burkhalter

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. COVID 19 Update
Presenters: Bruce Harvey, Candelarian Preston, Laurie Thomas, June Shorthair

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

8. Report Regarding The Urban Member COVID – 19 Testing Program; and Letter from Dr. Anthony Fauci
Presenters: Ronald Rosier

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council July 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Dale Enos, Melvin S. Sanderson

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

>8. A Resolution Approving A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And Gila River Cellular General Partnership, D/B/A Verizon Wireless, To Maintain, Operate, And Repair A Communication Facility Pursuant To The Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval under the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)
Presenters: Elizabeth Antone, Casandra Wallace

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Memberships For Alonzo Myrice Miles Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval under the consent agenda)

Presenters: Sheila Valenzuela

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. Two (2) Board of Director Appointments
Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. BELINDA NELSON
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. DEBORAH GRIFFIN

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENE AT 10:53 A.M.]

2. Gila River Health Care One (1) Board of Director Appointment Un-Expired Term
Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. JEWEL BISHOP

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee Declaration of One (1) Vacancy (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare and nominate for the appointment)
Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE VACANCY AND OPEN NOMINATIONS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCILMAN JAMES DE LA ROSA
2. Request for Approval of Attorney Contract (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

3. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council – One (1) Council Seat (CRSC forwards to Council to declare the position vacant and make the appointment at the September 2, 2020 Council meeting)
Presenters: Cultural Resource Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCILMAN ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR. MINUTES ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. G&MSC REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2020 CANCELLED DUE TO THE HOLIDAY

~GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS TO FORWARD AN UPDATE REGARDING THE ‘STAY AT HOME ORDER’

~REQUEST FOR A PRESS RELEASE REGARDING THE COMMUNITY’S BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

~CRSC MEETING ADJOURNED AND MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:10 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
> Denotes a CONSENT Agenda Item
What's New at GRICUA?

Gila River Indian News September 18, 2020

GRICUA 2021 Rate Change

The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) Board of Directors is excited to announce that, effective October 1, 2020, the FY2021 electric rates will go down an average of 12%, for residential, small commercial, medium commercial and regulated commercial customers. Rates for industrial, irrigation & pumping and streetlights remain unchanged. Leonard Gold, GRICUA General Manager stated that GRICUA has been able to keep rates stable and there has not been a rate change since fiscal year 2010. This rate decrease will be the second residential rate decrease since 2012. Currently, GRICUA’s residential rate is lower than SCIP and APS and on par with SRP. Mr. Gold continued that GRICUA has worked diligently over the past 3 years, Taylor has been taking remote classes with Northwest Line College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew. A couple years later, GRICUA hired him as a part-time warehouse worker. GRICUA recognized what a hard worker Trevor was and offered him a full-time job as a Groundman with our Line Crew. Last month, Trevor was selected as our Apprentice Lineman. Trevor will be taking remote classes with Northwest Lineman College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew.

Apprentice Lineman - Trevor Thompson

Congratulations to Trevor Thompson for being selected to a 4-year Apprenticeship Program. Trevor is a Community member from District 3. His parents are Trevor Thompson Sr. and Delila Thompson. Trevor started his career with GRICUA in 2014 as an Apprentice Lineman. After his summer internship ended, he returned to school. A couple years later, GRICUA worked diligently over the past 3 years, Taylor has been taking remote classes with Northwest Line College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew. We are excited to have him on our team.

Apprentice Lineman – Trevor Thompson

GRICUA 2021 Rate Change

The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) Board of Directors is excited to announce that, effective October 1, 2020, the FY2021 electric rates will go down an average of 12%, for residential, small commercial, medium commercial and regulated commercial customers. Rates for industrial, irrigation & pumping and streetlights remain unchanged. Leonard Gold, GRICUA General Manager stated that GRICUA has been able to keep rates stable and there has not been a rate change since fiscal year 2010. This rate decrease will be the second residential rate decrease since 2012. Currently, GRICUA’s residential rate is lower than SCIP and APS and on par with SRP. Mr. Gold continued that GRICUA has worked diligently over the past 3 years, Taylor has been taking remote classes with Northwest Line College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew. A couple years later, GRICUA hired him as a part-time warehouse worker. GRICUA recognized what a hard worker Trevor was and offered him a full-time job as a Groundman with our Line Crew. Last month, Trevor was selected as our Apprentice Lineman. Trevor will be taking remote classes with Northwest Lineman College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew.

Apprentice Lineman - Trevor Thompson

Congratulations to Trevor Thompson for being selected to a 4-year Apprenticeship Program. Trevor is a Community member from District 3. His parents are Trevor Thompson Sr. and Delila Thompson. Trevor started his career with GRICUA in 2014 as an Apprentice Lineman. After his summer internship ended, he returned to school. A couple years later, GRICUA worked diligently over the past 3 years, Taylor has been taking remote classes with Northwest Line College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew. A couple years later, GRICUA hired him as a part-time warehouse worker. GRICUA recognized what a hard worker Trevor was and offered him a full-time job as a Groundman with our Line Crew. Last month, Trevor was selected as our Apprentice Lineman. Trevor will be taking remote classes with Northwest Lineman College (NLC) and begin his on the job training with our Line Crew. We are excited to have him on our team.
AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

BY COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, GRIC HAS REQUESTED A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOV. 3RD.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP
Deleting the 20-year residency requirement for members:
Currently, Article 3, Section 3 of the Constitution states that a Community member who remains away from the Reservation continuously for 20 years shall automatically forfeit his or her tribal membership.

- A YES vote will remove this language from the Constitution and allow member to keep their membership if they remain away for 20 years.
- A NO vote will keep the current language.

ARTICLE XI DISTRICTS
Currently, Article 11, Section 1 of the Constitution states that the area known as Co-op shall be within District 6; however, the legal boundaries stated in Article 11 place Co-op within District 7.

- A YES vote will change the legal boundaries of District 7 and District 6 to move the area known as Co-op from District 7 to District 6.
- A NO vote will keep the current language.

ARTICLE XV POWERS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Currently Articles 3 and 15 of the Constitution state that the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to review certain kinds of ordinances and resolutions enacted by the Community Council, including civil and criminal codes, and ordinances regulating tribal membership.

- A YES vote will remove the Secretary of the Interior from the Ordinance and Resolution approval process.
- A NO vote will keep the current Constitution.

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.”
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