GRIC Members Receive Booster Shot at COVID-19 Vaccination Event

We are in a race to save lives, every shot in the arm saves lives.” - Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis

Sesame Street and the Community Team Up to Host Virtual Summit

Sesame Street in Arizona aired the Sesame Street in Communities was made possible by the GRIC Executive Office, Communications and Public Affairs Office, GRIC Tribal Education Department, Gila River Broadcasting Corporation, Arizona State University, and Arizona PBS. Readers who would like to watch the summit can do so through Facebook on the Gila River Broadcasting Corporation page.

On Saturday, Mar. 27, the Public Broadcasting Service of Arizona aired the Sesame Street in Communities Virtual Summit, highlighting the Community. The theme for the summit was “Building Resilient Kids,” featuring programming that addressed this and critical insights for teachers, parents, and caregivers for children.

Addressing the theme, Governor Stephen Roe Lewis said, “Resiliency is one of the characteristics hallmarking the experience and survival of our people, the Akimel O’otham and Pee-Posh.” Gov. Lewis further stated, “During challenging times in our history, we have adjusted, adapted, and maintained our Community values and come back stronger. Through the power of our culture, and unique broadcast experience and survival of our people, the Akimel O’otham and Pee-Posh, we remain anchored to our past.”

Miss Gila River Alyse Marrietta hosted the summit along with numerous on-air cameos from Jr. Miss Gila River Sinéca Jackson, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, in addition to everyone’s favorite Sesame Street characters.

Isaac Salcido, Director of Tribal Education Department, worked with GRIC Executive Office, CPAO, Arizona PBS, and Arizona State University to plan the summit. In January, Mr. Salcido learned that GRIC was one of twenty sites chosen for the Sesame Street in Communities project this year.

Salcido said, “We are proud of the departments that came together and represented the Community to put everything together.” Salcido also mentioned that he found the “Bounce Back” song performance the most entertaining. Gov. Lewis, Miss Gila River Alyse Marrietta, Jr., Miss Gila River Sinéca Jackson, and Sesame Street characters Rosita, Karli, Elmo, and Alan all performed the song together.

Kimberly Flack, Director, Education & Community Impact at Arizona PBS, helped designate GRIC as a site. She said, “Gila River has such a rich Community, culture, and unique broadcast opportunity. So, we wanted to highlight the Community, its resources, and share Sesame Street resources with the Community too.”

As part of this effort, Arizona PBS and Sesame Street will be providing professional development resources to teachers working in Early Head Start, Head Start, Child Care, and Preschools throughout the Community. These resources are also available for parents/guardians. Additionally, they will also provide 1,000 books to local schools, preschools through Kindergarten, including backpacks and other materials.

The Sesame Street in Communities Virtual Summit was made possible by the GRIC Executive Office, Communications and Public Affairs Office, GRIC Tribal Education Department, Gila River Broadcasting Corporation, Arizona State University, and Arizona PBS. Readers who would like to watch the summit can do so through Facebook on the Gila River Broadcasting Corporation page.
NEW COVID VACCINE ELIGIBILITY
16 YEARS AND OLDER

Eligible 16 and 17 year olds can now receive the Pfizer vaccine with the consent of a parent or guardian.

Schedule an Appointment:
- During hours of Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, call the Covid-19 Hotline to schedule an appointment at: (520) 550-6079 and press Option 1 for the vaccine scheduling team to make appointment.
- Patients can also contact the Vaccine Scheduling Line at 602-528-1482 (Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm).
- During afterhours and weekend call: Covid-19 Hotline to leave message with Hotline staff requesting a call back for vaccine appointment.
- Patients/parents may also email: C19schedulingbox@grhc.org to request appointment and one of the schedulers will call back.

FOR GENERAL INFO ABOUT CORONAVIRUS, GO TO GRHC.ORG/HUB OR CALL THE GRHC CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE AT (520) 550-6079

What is a SANE or Forensic Nurse?
SANE stands for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. This title is a little deceiving, as SANE’s also do medical forensic exams for victims of domestic or interpersonal violence, strangulation, abuse, neglect, and trafficking, as well as suspect exams. Our SANE team does acute as well as delayed disclosure medical forensic exams. Even if it has been several years, we still want to see all victims!

We also provide services for adults who do not want law enforcement involved. We have many options available to help victims of these crimes even if they don’t want to make a formal report. We can provide an exam, STI prophylaxis. The exception to this obviously, is any case that would be a mandatory report. (Minors, children.)

A SANE or Forensic Nurse is a Registered Nurse who is specially trained to provide comprehensive care to victims of trauma/violence and who demonstrates competency in performing a medical forensic exam. A SANE/Forensic Nurse is specifically trained to identify and document injuries caused by trauma. A SANE has knowledge of the neurobiology of trauma – basically the effects of trauma on the brain. This allows the SANE to provide quality trauma informed care for each patient.

In order to become a forensic nurse, an RN must complete a 40 hour didactic course and be signed off on a preceptorship to do medical forensic exams. This process must be done for the adult/adolescent population, and again for pediatrics.

To become certified, the Forensic Nurse Examiner must complete 300 hours of practice (for adult/adolescent and again for pediatric) to sit for the exam. Once they have passed one or both exams, they can use the credentials SANE-A and/or SANE-P.

Potential Indicators of Sexual Abuse

**Physical indications:**
- Sleep disturbances
- Bedwetting
- Pain or irritation in genital area
- Difficulty walking or sitting
- Difficulty urinating
- Pregnancy
- Positive testing for sexually transmitted infection or HIV
- Excessive or injurious masturbation
- Excessive fear of being touched
- Refusal to go to a certain place or be with a certain person
- Clinging, whining
- Increase in physical complaints
- Excessive bathing
- Reluctance to undress for physical education classes

**Behavioral indications:**
- Sexually promiscuous, or inappropriate sexual behavior
- Developmental age-inappropriate sexual play and/or drawings
- Fear of being alone
- Regression to more infantile behavior such as wetting, thumb-sucking, fecal soiling
- Change in appetite, eating disorders
- Cruelty to others
- Cruelty to animals
- Acting out and attention getting behavior such as shoplifting, stealing, fire setting
- Anxious
- Withdrawn, isolation from peers – or other changes in behavior
- Grades in school may drop, difficulty concentrating & learning
- Alcohol / drug abuse
- Attraction to older men or dislike of men
- Chronic running away
- Poor self-image – reflected in dress, cleanliness, appearance
- Depression, physical self-abuse, suicide attempts / threats

For more information, please contact us at: SANE Clinic at 520-562-5151 or email sane@grhc.org
High School Basketball Player Shines on the Court in 6A State Championship Playoffs while Promoting an Importance Cause

Emma Hughes  
Gila River Indian News

One of the players at the heart of Hamilton High School’s terrific 2021 girls’ basketball season is senior guard Haili Gonzales, who helped the Huskies make it to the AIA 6A State Championship final game this year. The Huskies lost to Valley Vista 49-41 on Mar. 20.

Gonzales, who resides in District 3, has been actively involved in the Community through sports for years. She also served as Jr. Miss Gila River in 2017-2018 and has been part of the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council for the past four years.

Gonzales began competing in sports while attending elementary school. As a softball player and a coed basketball player, she moved on to playing for teams outside the Community during high school. Gonzales played in the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) tournament during her freshman and sophomore years of high school while playing with a team from the Ak-Chin Indian Community because GRIC did not have a girls team.

“I just had to represent the girls from Gila River,” said Gonzales. “I was just blessed Ak-Chin gave me the opportunity to play with them.”

During her senior year with the Hamilton Huskies, some of the team’s practice time was instead spent in a “basketball class” due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The team’s head coach, Trevor Neider, organized the class as a chance for the team to meet and discuss topics and issues they’d like to share, giving them time to bond. Gonzales helped to initiate topics such as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW), creating team shirts that helped raise awareness on the issue. Other topics included self-confidence and mental health.

According to a Sports360AZ article on Gonzales and the Lady Huskies team, she actively promotes the MMIW movement by wearing a t-shirt, with symbols that represents the plight of indigenous women, who fall victim to violence.

The Huskies, ranked Number One in the state, finished the season with a record of 19-1. The lone loss came in the state finals against Valley Vista High School.

It was the second time in two years the two teams competed against each other for the state championship.

Gonzales is working to obtain her pharmacy technician certificate with the state before graduation. She said she plans to pursue her education in biology of medicine before returning to work for the Community as a Pharmacist.

In reverting back to her advocacy for MMIW Gonzales said, “When we’re on the court not only do we play for ourselves but we play for everyone out there, we play for the girls who can’t play, we play for these movements to show awareness for them.” in the article posted by Sports360AZ.

MMIW is a topic Gonzales feels passionate about and was one of her platforms during her reign as Jr. Miss Gila River, to advocate for awareness on violence against indigenous women and children.

At right, Gonzales plays in a game against Liberty High School from Peoria, where they won 65-19 on Feb. 16 of this year. Photo courtesy of Robert Knox.

Lady Huskies Guard Haili Gonzales prepares to shoot a free throw during a regular season girls basketball team game. Photo courtesy of Robert Knox.

Emma Hughes wears a traditional Akimel O’odham dress, which has been her way of expressing the culture among her teammates. Photo courtesy Haili Gonzales
Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.
“Proudly serving the Gila River Indian Community since 1988”
Box 5015, 7065 West Allison Road, Chandler, Arizona 85226-5135
(520) 796-3333 • www.gilarivertel.com • Fax (520) 796-7534

Current GRTI Lobby Guidelines

We are taking all of the necessary precautions when you visit the GRTI lobby. Our customer service representatives will be following all safety protocols including wearing masks and gloves during business hours.

- Maximum lobby capacity - 6 people at a time.
- Only 2 people per account may enter.
- Facial masks are required at all times.
- Restrooms are unavailable to the public.
- Each station will be disinfected after every customer interaction.

Don’t forget, for convenience and to promote social distancing you can still pay your bill over the phone, on-line or mail drop.
By Billy Allen

GRPD officers discuss a practice scenario using the Virtra training system. Kyle Knox/GRIN

It’s now over a year since the pandemic changed life. Most of us follow advice from health professionals and orders of tribal leadership. Our GRIC government assisted with provisions and took steps to try and protect the community. March 2021 came, and without the Mul-Chu-Tha, disappointing many Native runners. As a former runner who has run urban byways, canal banks, and the dusty roads of our community, I empathize. March was National Women’s History Month, so I asked five women runners—like a cross-country team—to share thoughts on running.

Pain can be constant while running. The body feels it cannot go on; the mind seeks reasons to stop. Carolyn Thompson described when she pushed through pain: “When she pushed through pain, Burrito was just about to stop during a race but “from outta nowhere,” a raped unlocked her arm and pulled her to keep on running. A sisterhood was born. The support given by the many runners I have met throughout the years really helps.”

Running can provide a type of strength beyond the physical. Raquel Romero contributed her thoughts: “I fell in love with running when I started to run to rediscover who I was. Running has given meaning, depth and a feeling of being a part of something greater, making me grateful. The most supportive people I’ve ever met. I work with a few runners and we always talk about upcoming races, getting together for prayer runs, along with our fears, accomplishments, and memories when it comes to our training. I used to run before sunrise, so no one would see me.” Her advice to those thinking about it: “Just start! No distance is too small. No pace is too slow. Do what your body allows and be patient, because running is a life-long journey.” Hopefully you may feel “the joyed supporting you.” Completing a half-marathon was indescribable. “I am a runner—confident, but still in disbelief how far had come in just a few years.”

“I started running in high school, one mile from my house and back.” These are the words of Danielle Mercado. “But I did not become consistent until my 30s. Running is medicine for me. It’s healing, it’s life, and it’s prayer all in one for me. If I’m upset, I can run it out. If I’m happy, I can run and be lifted higher. It is definitely spiritual, mental, and physical. It centers me. When I lace up, I am accountable to myself. I think it is super cool when I get random phone calls and messages from people who saw me running. My family has been very supportive … friends will send music to add to my playlist as I train. I love running with their energy, love, and spirit. I carry them with me. I run in the city which has a different energy and vibe—I can come up on and pass other runners! Just start. It will not be easy or perfect, but lace up and go. Have fun!” Samantha Tashquinth echoed some of the previous comments. “Running is a part of our Indian way on the Gila River Indian Community. I run using physical movement in a prayer and a voice for strength and healing. In this physical sacrifice, I also like to think I am helping my family and community towards a healthier way of life. I also want to be a healthy mother for my daughters. I run the same land of my ancestors as an act of prayer. Running goes beyond time, people ran in the past, people run today, and someone will be running tomorrow. S-apu.”

New Training Simulation System at GRPD Makes for Service Improvements

GRPD Sgt. Perez takes part in a training simulation where she confronts an armed suspect. These simulations help officers in developing appropriate reaction skills during these types of incidents. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Samantha Tashquinth

After years of use, The Gila River Police Department has seen countless benefits of their new training system, Virtra. Virtra is an innovative simulation training system for GRPD Police and Rangers. Virtra has numerous applications for local law enforcement and is used regularly by GRPD since acquiring the system.

Located in Tempe Ariz., Virtra provides a total approach to scenarios they may encounter while on patrol. In return, officers are better equipped to react in situations where desensitizing the incident can make the difference in outcomes.

Ricardo Alvarado, GRPD Public Information Officer, said, “The goal of Virtra is to provide the ability for officers to become better aware of their surroundings, interact with scenarios in real-time, practice de-escalation strategies and reduce the need for a ‘use of force’ encounter.”

The Virtra system is both software and hardware and creates “real world” environments and scenarios for GRPD to train. The system has many officer benefits, such as improving marksmanship, practice de-escalation strategies, and using verbal commands. Officers must use all tactics at their disposal in training while training officers program scenario outcomes.

Virtra technology provides an inclusive setting, that uses a 300-degree projector system. Moreover, officers and rangers enter armed with a gas blowback pistol. These pistols include a laser tracker so that every shot fired can be traced and will show whether the use of force was safe and if the officer hit the intended target.

Training officers observe and debrief after every scenario with officers to walk-thru their performance, provide critiques, and replay the scenario with officers to show where improvements are needed.

With this technology readily available, officers like GRPD Sergeant Perez understand the benefits of having the system in place. Sergeant Perez said, “I am proud that our community is moving towards an improved virtual direction for officer training.”

With such a local system in place, more officers can train effectively and minimize travel and time away from work at other facilities. Also, the Virtra allows for officers to prepare and test for required training certifications.

A’AGA

Something to be told or talked about

Gila River Indian News

April 1, 2021

Page 5

GRPD officers discuss a practice scenario using the Virtra training system. Kyle Knox/GRIN

I appreciate the five runners who shared their experiences with me, and now you, GRIN readers. An Olympic marathoner in the 60s and 70s, Ron Hill, offered this: “Get going … walk if you have to, but finish that darned race.” It has an O’odham ring to it, which this O’odham coach would have worn out. Can’t wait to hear “Dei va! / Go” at the starting line.

Whether you go out solo or in a group, you and those shadow keeping pace are probably running in footsteps left by our ancestors. As sung by Neil Young, “Long may you run.”
Native American Connections Opens New Wellness Center and Housing Units

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Native American families and veterans in need of help have two new options for assistance after Native American Connections held its grand opening ceremony to the public on March 24th. The grassroots organization opened its newly completed Patina Mountain Preserve Wellness Center and its Dunlap Pointe Housing Community, both located in North Phoenix.

The spawning facility, a multi-year project, included financial backing from the Gila River Indian Community, which contributed $500,000 to fund part of the construction through a state shared gaming revenue. Additional backing came from the City of Phoenix and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

“One of the keys to the health and wellness of Gila River community members is addressing mental health and substance use issues,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. “The Patina Mountain Preserve Wellness Center incorporates traditional Native healing ceremonies with best practices for promoting good health. This is important work, and we are proud to support this project.”

NAC President and CEO Diana Yazzie Devine said the new facility is much needed at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic has affected many Native families and individuals facing homelessness and substance abuse. “We really have to understand how important it is to have a safe place to live and also for people recover from their substance abuse,” said Yazzie Devine.

The wellness center has 48 beds for individuals, including accommodations for traditional ceremonial and healing practices. Access from the wellness center is a 54-unit housing area dedicated to homeless veterans, who will have access to Veterans Administration case managers and services during their stays.

“With this new campus, Native American Connections is providing critical support to mitigate housing and mental health issues, while helping the City of Phoenix reach its goal to reduce homelessness by providing affordable housing and resources,” said Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego.

NAC opened a new 54-unit housing unit for homeless veterans and individuals, which is adjacent to the Patina Mountain Preserve wellness center in Northern Phoenix. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

The Patina Mountain Wellness Center as a large talking circle room, where clients can meet during a treatment session. Other amenities located within the wellness center include art spaces, a recreation center and counseling rooms. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Native American Connections recently opened the Patina Mountain Preserve Wellness Center and Dunlap Pointe Housing Community in North Phoenix on Mar. 24. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Press Release
Native Seeds/SEARCH

For immediate release:

With Spring and Summer plantings right around the corner, Tucson based non-profit Native Seeds/SEARCH is working to better spread the word about their seed programs so that more Native gardeners and farmers may access seeds that are traditional to their own and neighboring communities. Seeds can be obtained through the NS/S website nativeseeds.org/getseeds, or by phone 520-622-0830 x113, through the following programs:

Native American Seed Request: Indigenous individuals and families in the region can receive up to 10 free seed packets of their choice per year.

Partner Farmer Program: Experienced Native farmers can access larger quantities by agreeing to return a small portion of their harvest to NS/S to help maintain seed stocks while increasing the food and seed available to themselves and their communities. We are also interested in paying experienced Native farmers to grow out larger quantities to increase seed stocks.

Community Seed Grant: Schools, senior centers and other community-focused organizations can receive 30 seed packets of their choosing for community gardens; requests for seeds can be made twice per year.

• Information about all programs is online at nativeseeds.org/getseeds.
• For those interested in NASR and without internet access, you can request a catalog and/or place an order by calling 520-622-0830 x113.
• For those interested in PFP and without internet access, call 520-622-0830 x115

We are honored to be stewarding the seeds in the NS/S Seed Bank, some of which come from your community. We hope to be part of service by making seeds more available to those in your community who need them. We appreciate your help in spreading the word!

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
DISTRICT 2 PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF GRIC!

What: District 2 Community Visioning Meeting
When: 9:00 – 11:00 AM Saturday April 10, 2021
Where: Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84416531354
or dial in at 929-205-6099
Why: Your participation matters. Land use is changing, and the Community is getting more impacted by outside development pressures. Help us strategize the best uses for the Community’s land and your future.

What will happen?
Review current status of land uses in the Community, identify planning considerations for future land uses, and develop a future vision for the Community Land Use Plan. Raffle drawings will occur during the event!

For more info please visit: https://www.mygilariver.com/index.php/gila-river-indian-community-land-use-plan

We want to hear from you!

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for the air quality operating permits for the following facilities: Kaiser Air Contaminants Emitted: Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), Carbon Monoxide (CO), and Sulfur Oxides (SOx). Public Notice End Date: May 3, 2021

Any person may submit a written comment or a request to the DEQ to conduct a public hearing for the permits, and respond to all the comments received.


Requests and written comments may be delivered or mailed to:
Gila River Indian Community
Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Ryan Eberle
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147
For further information or to schedule an in-person review, please contact Ryan Eberle at (520) 796-3781 / 929-205-6099

With Spring and Summer plantings right around the corner, Tucson based non-profit Native Seeds/SEARCH is working to better spread the word about their seed programs so that more Native gardeners and farmers may access seeds that are traditional to their own and neighboring communities. Seeds can be obtained through the NS/S website nativeseeds.org/getseeds, or by phone 520-622-0830 x113, through the following programs:

Native American Seed Request: Indigenous individuals and families in the region can receive up to 10 free seed packets of their choice per year.

Partner Farmer Program: Experienced Native farmers can access larger quantities by agreeing to return a small portion of their harvest to NS/S to help maintain seed stocks while increasing the food and seed available to themselves and their communities. We are also interested in paying experienced Native farmers to grow out larger quantities to increase seed stocks.

Community Seed Grant: Schools, senior centers and other community-focused organizations can receive 30 seed packets of their choosing for community gardens; requests for seeds can be made twice per year.

• Information about all programs is online at nativeseeds.org/getseeds.
• For those interested in NASR and without internet access, you can request a catalog and/or place an order by calling 520-622-0830 x113.
• For those interested in PFP and without internet access, call 520-622-0830 x115

We are honored to be stewarding the seeds in the NS/S Seed Bank, some of which come from your community. We hope to be part of service by making seeds more available to those in your community who need them. We appreciate your help in spreading the word!
Youth Council Coordinator. is and how it affects them on know what their Constitution session this year.

AOPPYC was excited to see Due to the COVID-19 days during Spring Break. – happens in person for three workings of the Community time. Normally, Close Up – staging it online for the first its annual “Close Up” event, O’odham/ Pee-Posh Youth

Gila River Indian News Kyle Knox Gila River Indian News

On Mar. 27, the Akimel O’odham’ Pec-Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) hosted its annual “Close Up” event, staging it online for the first time. Normally, Close Up – which educates young GRIC members about the inner workings of the Community – happens in person for three days during Spring Break. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Close Up was canceled, so the AOPPYC was excited to see its return in a one-day virtual session this year. “Our youth need to know what their Constitution is and how it affects them on a daily basis,” said Michael Preston, the Community’s Youth Council Coordinator.

“Africa of the GRIC Community Preston sees Close Up as a means of deepening the youth’s knowledge of the Community to serve as leaders in the future. The curriculum provides an in-depth look at establishing the Community’s government as a sovereign nation, including forming its “reservation” land base and Community court system. During the presentation, youth demonstrate what they know about their Community. Many leave with an improved understanding, as evidenced by an assessment at the end. First-time participant Jada Young said she learned a great deal during the session. “It is so important to at least have a basic understanding of how our government works while also educating yourself about our history,” said Young. “Close Up was so useful and helpful, and it deepened my own understanding of every concept we were taught, and it made me smarter.” Clarke Johnson described the lesson on the history of the Water Rights Settlement Act of 2004 as especially interesting. “Close Up is important because we take in new information and review information we already know and still learn more,” said Johnson. “And even if you know the information, it helps you remember and keeps it fresh inside your head.”

Many up participants complete a pre and post-assessment analysis to gauge the amount of information they acquire through the program. All participants regularly show comprehensive improvement on their pre-assessment thus indicating the success of the program. I was so surprised to see how much my knowledge increased in just a short amount of time,” said Jada Young. “At the end of the session, I got a 20 out of 20 on my test.”

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY DISTRICT 3 PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF GRIC!

We want to hear from you!

What: District 3 Community Visioning Meeting
When: 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Where: Zoom (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8834847038) or dial in at 929-205-6099
Why: Your participation matters. Land use is changing, and the Community is getting more impacted by outside development pressures. Help us strategize the best uses for the Community’s land and your future.

What will happen? Review current status of land uses in the Community, identify planning considerations for future land uses, and develop a future vision for the Community Land Use Plan. Raffle drawings will occur during the event!

JOIN US:

Online: Join the meeting online at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8834847038
In Person: Dial in at 929-205-6099 (Meeting ID 883 484 7038)
For more info please visit www.mygilariver.com/index.php/gila-river-indian-community-land-use-plan
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • March 17, 2021

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, March 17, 2021, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:04 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Carol Schurz

ROLL CALL
Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman; Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith; D5-James De La Rosa, Martin Dixon, Brian Davis, Sr., Thomas White, D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird
Council Members Absent:
D4-Vacant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE
REPORT #1
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #2, #3, AND #5; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTION #3 AND #5, UNFINISHED BUSINESS #3, NEW BUSINESS #1 AND #2; AND DISPENSE WITH BUSINESS #6
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS
Presenter: Jim Mosley
ITEM TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>2. Casino Expansion Owner’s Team Project Update
Presenters: Dale Gutenson; Barney Eno, Jr.
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>3. Blackwater Community School Expenses
Report for CARES Act Funding from GRIC
Presenters: Jagdish Sharma; Wendell Joe
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA 4. COVID-19 Update
Presenters: Bruce Harvey; Candelaria Preston; Laurie Thomas; Roberto Jackson; Chief Timothy Chavez; Dr. Anthony Santiago
REPORT HEARD
>5. GRSG FY 2020 Annual Report
Presenter: Michael H. Morago; Donna Stowell; Darin White
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. FY21 Monthly Activity Report ending January 31, 2021 (Executive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Approving An Amendment To The Fleet Management Services Section V. Vehicle And Equipment Acquisition And Disposal Procedure, G. Executive Vehicle Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Javier Ramos
APPROVED
2. A Resolution Amending Resolution GR-166-19 Regarding Establishing A Housing Owner’s Team And Approving Bylaws (G&MSC forwards to Council with corrections and with a recommendation to add District Six, District Seven, and District Two to the composition of the Housing Owner’s Team, with the representative for District Six – Charles Goldtooth, District Two – Carol Schurz, and District Seven – Devin Redbird)
Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team; Javier Ramos
APPROVED
>3. A Resolution Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement Between The City Of Chandler And The Gila River Indian Community For Mutual Aid Response For Fire Protection And Other Emergency Services (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; LSC concurs)
Presenter: Kathy Garcia; Rebecca Hall
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving A Memorandum Of Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community Through The Tribal Social Services Department And Gila River Health Care Corporation Through The Behavioral Health Services Department For The Behavioral Health Services (H&SSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Trina Hart
APPROVED
>5. A Resolution Approving The Appointment Of Kami Hart As A Children’s Court Judge For The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Stephen R. Lewis; Thomas Murphy
ITEM ACCEPTED AND Approved AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS 1. Gila River Sand & Gravel One (1) Board of Director Appointment
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT
MR. GORDON DOMINGO
2. Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage District One (1) Board of Director Appointment
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT
MS. GWENDOLYN THOMAS
>3. Native Nations Institute Request (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Daniella Hiraldo
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA NEW BUSINESS
>1. Gila River Farms FY21 1st 8 Quarter Report (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business and for placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Stephanie Saucedo-Manuel
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>2. Report Gila River Farms (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept and for placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Stephanie Saucedo-Manuel
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA (GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVEnED AT 11:33 A.M.)
3. Gila River Indian Community Return to Work Plan (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business; H&SSC concurs)
Presenters: Stephen Lewis; Monica Antone; Suzanne Jones; Laurie Thomas; Elizabeth Bohnee; Kimberly Antone; Candelaria Preston; Bruce Harvey; Joyce White; Layla Cisneros
ITEM HEARD
4. Certification of Qualifications For The Gila River Indian Community 2021 Community Council Candidates (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to Certify District 1 Candidates Cruz Yucupisio, Arzie T. Hogg, Cynthia Ruth Antone, Lynelle Blackwater, Carlos Moreno, and Keith A. Williams Sr.; LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to Certify District 4 Candidates Christopher Mendoza, John A. Antone, and Jayson Andrew Michael Enos; LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to Certify District 5 Candidates Wahlean J. Rigg, Serena M. Joaquin, Pamela Vega, and Franklin Pablo Sr.; LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to Certify District 6 Candidates Anthony C. Villareal, Sr. and Rhonda Whemper)
Presenter: Nadine Sheldé
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 1: CRUZ YUCUPISIO, ARZIE T. HOGG, CYNTHIA RUTH ANTOINE, LINELLE BLACKWATER, CARLOS MORENO, AND KEITH A. WILLIAMS, SR.
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 4: CHRISTOPHER MENDOZA, JOHN A. ANTOINE, AND JAYSON ANDREW MICHAEL ENOS
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 5: WAHLEAN J. RIGGS, SERENA M. JOAQUIN, PAMELA VEGA, AND FRANKLIN PABLO, SR.
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 6: ANTHONY C. VILLAREAL, SR. AND RHONDA WHEMPLER
5. GRIC v. Mahoney – Approval of Settlement (Executive Session) (G&MSC approves entering into the Settlement Agreement and Release, subject to any minor changes, or edits that do not affect the substance of the agreement and forwards to Council under New Business; H&SSC concurs)
Presenters: Thomas Murphy; Robert Yoder
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE 6. Exclusion Order Update (Executive Session)
(LSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session with additional material)
Presenters: Mandy Cisneros; Kimberly Antone; Wayne Allison; Michael Lando Voyles; Chief Timothy Chavez
DISPENSED AT THE APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
MINUTES
1. March 3, 2021 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS ADJOURNMENT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:12 P.M.
* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

PROPOSED REVISION TO TITLE 19 OF THE GRIC CODE ADOPTING 2018 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODES

The Legislative Standing Committee (“LSC”) will be considering the proposed revision of Title 19 of the GRIC Code adopting the 2018 Editions of the International Building Code, the International Mechanical Code, the International Plumbing Code, the International Residential Code, the International Fuel Gas Code, the International Property Maintenance Code, the Energy Conservation Code, the Performance Code for Buildings and Facilities, the Green Building Code, and the 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Code at their regular meeting on **April 27, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.** A copy of the proposed revision of Title 19 of the GRIC Code in its entirety is available for review at the Community Council Secretary’s Office or by contacting Casandra Wallace, Senior Assistant General Counsel, at casandra.wallace@gric.nsn.us.

If you are interested in providing comments on the proposed revision of Title 19 of the GRIC Code, please attend the scheduled LSC meeting, your Council representative or the LSC Chairperson at (520) 562-9720, or provide written comments by email to Casandra Wallace at casandra.wallace@gric.nsn.us or by mail to the Office of the General Counsel, P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147, Attn: Casandra Wallace.
LIMITED TIME

100,000 MILE WARRANTY

Get 0% FINANCING with $1 DOWN Only $188/Mo.

2020 MIRAGE

SCOTTSAYSYES.com

*$13,215. Tax, Title and license down for 188.00. 2 Zero percent available for shorter terms. 3 180 payment requires a 760 score, financing for 84 months. Using dealer cash from Mitsubishi*

WE SERVICE ALL MAKES AND MODELS | NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

For more details contact 520-800-1084 or visit www.premiermitsubishi.com/service/ 1648 N Pinal Ave Casa Grande, AZ 85122
IF YOUR BRACKET’S BUSTED
AND YOUR RIDE IS RUSTED
You Will Come Out the
CHAMPION at
CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

2014 Hyundai Sonata
Only 88,000 Miles
$179/MO.

2016 Honda Pilot
Low Miles
$389/MO.

2018 Chevy Malibu
29,000 Miles
$235/MO.

2020 Dodge Journey
300 Miles
$385/MO.

2017 Ford Escape Titanium
Fully Loaded
$328/MO.

2016 Honda CRV
Like New
$289/MO.

2018 Kia Niro
Great Gas Mileage
$265/MO.

2019 Chrysler 300
Great Color
Super Clean!

2018 Dodge Challenger SXT
Drive In Style
$390/MO.

2018 Toyota Rav 4
Great Buy at
$275/MO.

2019 Nissan Versa SV
$159/MO.

2018 Ford Taurus Limited
Fully Loaded
$287/MO.

Doubles Your Tax Refund
$2000 FOR YOUR TRADE

NO PAYMENTS TILL JUNE

CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER
1026 N. PINAL AVE.
CASA GRANDE

INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL
WWW.CROSSROADSAUTO.ORG
520-836-2112

*Payment based on 36 month terms. 1.9% APR @ 72 mos. with TSL. Limited. Used vehicles qualify based on approved credit. Most present ad returns of purchase. Not all vehicles qualify. Ask manager for details. **Up to $1000 total package of only used inventory.
Play for good.
Play for Soldier’s Best Friend.

Through dedication and passion, Gila River Hotels & Casinos and the Gila River Indian Community give back to our neighbors. When we come together for the greater good, everyone wins. Every time you walk through our doors, you help fund the Soldier’s Best Friend program, training and pairing service dogs with the veterans who benefit the most from their company. When you play with us, you play for good.