Gila River Indian Community rolls-out first COVID-19 Vaccines

Gila River Farms Produces First Batches of Olive Oil in District 5

Christopher Lomahqahau
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Farms is getting into the business of producing its own olive oil, in a first among tribal communities in the United States. Located in the heart of Casa Blanca and District Five, the farm features acres upon acres of olive trees, many of which have been growing for the past three years. The first-ever harvest of ripe olives began last December.

Currently, Gila River Farms is storing its olive oil at an offsite location in Eloy, while management develops a plan to distribute the new product.

“We are working on presenting it to the hotels and casinos on the Community and we are working to selling it in bulk and work on our brand,” said Stephanie Sauceda-Manuel, Gila River Farms General Manager.

The harvest of the farm’s ripe olives was a complicated process – one that required a harvester tractor and a mobile mill to produce olive oil. For the militia’s 25 year Farms turned to a Texas-based farm, Lone Star Olive Ranch, which partnered with the Community to handle the milling process.

“I’ve been processing olive oil since 2012 and working mobile since 2015,” said Christine McCabe, Lone Star’s Co-owner.

“When [we] started, we needed a manner in which to process our fruit, like many other olive growers in Texas,” said McCabe.

That need led to the development of the mobile mill. Later, Lone Star Olive Ranch expanded beyond Texas, helping organizations like Gila River Farms produce its own olive oil. McCabe explained how each part of the process is essential to extracting the olive oil from the fruit, which must undergo sorting, removal of debris, thorough washing, and then a crushing process.

Sauceda-Manuel, Gila River Farms General Manager, says the olive oil business has the potential to be extremely successful.

“We have a lot of individuals already who are interested in buying the oil and even the fruit, but we are looking … down the line to have our own equipment to process the oil,” said Sauceda-Manuel.

The farm may ultimately look to get recognition locally and nationally, she said, but expanding to reach that goal will require more infrastructure.

Part of that expansion includes the involvement of District 5 Community member Blue Sky Jones, who started with Gila River Farms last December.

“I didn’t know a lot about olive oil when I started,” said Jones. He said there has been a lot to learn on the job, but working with individuals like McCabe has cultivated his interest in learning more about the olive oil business.

“I enjoy the opportunity to learn how [this] whole process is done, but most of all it is good … for the Community to have individuals like me to learn about it and how we can do it on our own,” said Jones. He said the timing of everything came together when he applied to Gila River Farms with an interest in being apprentice. Manuel-Sauceda, the farm’s general manager agreed, saying she looks to hire Community members, especially workers interested in learning a trade and gaining knowledge while
16TH DAY OF JANUARY TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

GOVERNOR, STEPHEN ROE LEWIS AND LT. GOVERNOR, MONICA ANTONE

CHIEF JUDGE, JOSEPH MANUEL

ASSOCIATE JUDGES:
SHERI CASSA, CHARLES ARAGON, JANICE BRECKENRIDGE,
ANTHONY HILL, DARREN PEDRO-MARTINEZ

PREMIERE ON SATURDAY JANUARY 16, 2020 AT 12:00 P.M. AND RE-AIRED AT 6:00 P.M. ON

GILA RIVER BROADCASTING CORPORATION CHANNELS 19.1 & 29.1

THE VIDEO WILL ALSO BE STREAMED ON GRBC FACEBOOK. GRIC WILL HOST A WATCH PARTY BY
SHARING THE GRBC FACEBOOK VIDEO.
The COVID-19 vaccine is currently available to Gila River Indian Community Elders (55+) with serious, high-risk chronic medical conditions.

If you are a GRIC elder and have any questions about the vaccine, please call the GRHC COVID-19 Hotline at (520) 550-6079.

**First Group**
Ages 55+ with any of the following serious health conditions:
- Congestive heart failure/Cardiomyopathy,
- Any organ transplant
- Cirrhosis

**Second Group**
Ages 55+ with diabetes and one of the following health conditions:
- COPD
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Coronary artery disease
- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease

FOR GENERAL INFO ABOUT CORONAVIRUS, GO TO GRHC.ORG/HUB
OR CALL THE GRHC CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE AT (520) 550-6079
Youth Prepare Nutritious Meals with Traditional Flavor Alongside Local Cook

Christopher Lomahquahu

Guided by a Community member who has developed his skill in traditional Native cooking styles, members of the Akimel O’odham Pee Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) took lessons last month in how to prepare staple meals of the Community’s culture.

The December 29 virtual presentation — led by Community member and culinary expert James Sundust — focused using Soam Bav (brown tepary beans) made into a Poshol dish.

“Sundust has always had aspirations for the art of culinary cooking for some time, but his background in traditional Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh culture has allowed him to integrate the two together,” said Michael Preston, the director of the AOPPYC.

Sundust also showed the participants how to properly use a knife, incorporating cutting techniques conducted while under parental supervision. Sundust walked through each part of the preparation process. In total, it took about an hour to finish the dish.

At the center of the poshol, the dish used other ingredients to add flavor, including pilkan (wheat berry), and salt pork. The dish was slow cooked until tender. The recipe relied on each of the ingredient’s natural flavors, rather than using salt or other additives.

Preston said many of the youth participants had requested more interactive events. The AOPPYC collaborated with the Gila River Nutrition Coalition to make the cooking class possible.

Preston added that young people and Community members outside of AOPPYC can get involved with the group through classes like this, while incorporating traditional themes. While AOPPYC generally focuses on youth between 13 and 21 years old, Preston said the lessons have been popular with all age ranges — and some adults.

“For the most part there is a variety of ages that are adapting to it,” he said. “We even had 10-year olds who cooked along with their parents.”

Virtual activities like this represent a way to have fun while staying home, said Preston, allowing young GRIC members to have positive interactions while maintaining the Community’s stay-at-home orders. “We listen to them, so every time we do an activity, we have a survey that will ask them what they want to see possible.”

“A Poshol dish, during the AOPPYC cooking presentation on Dec. 29. Photo Herille Du Bray

As the pandemic continues to be an issue, COVID-19,” said Preston, “but we are doing the best we can to provide a safe way of interacting with each other.”

Preston said to expect more such virtual events as AOPPYC moves into the new year and the organization

LIHEAP

LIHEAP Eligibility Requirements

- Must be residing within the Gila River Indian Reservation
- Income test, income from all sources for each household member of the age of 18 and over
- Current utility bill

Please submit document verification by:

- Scan to Email - scan & email documents from home to the designated Intake Specialist
- Text to Email - take a picture by phone and send to the email provided
- District Service Center drop off in Drop-Off Box

Intake Specialist will be able to provide the applicant with an email address to submit the income verification.

LIHEAP Eligibility Requirements

- Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program

LIHEAP Winter Crisis Assistance Program

Telephone Intake opens December 14, 2020
For Elderly/Disabled & Families with Children under 5yrs
All other families Intake will open December 28, 2020

LIHEAP Winter Assistance Program

Telephone Intake opens December 28, 2020
For All Families in need of Assistance

LIHEAP program may be able to help ease the burden of your utility cost with a lump sum payment to the utility bill. Program is open until funds are exhausted.

Crisis is a one-time assistance per fiscal year

Please call your District Service Center to apply

District One (520) 215-2110 District Four (520) 418-3566
District Two (520) 562-5430 District Five (520) 515-3541
District Three (520) 562-3554 District Six (520) 530-3803
District Seven (520) 450-4780

The District Service Center staff is responsible for the protection of your personal records and bound by confidentiality. We are here to serve you.

Any questions please call your District Service Center.
O’otham I:mik, Kinship Terms II

S-hekig Vechi’ Aithagh, Miliganach! Being together with our immediate families and knowing the relationships we have to one another is very important in keeping our Hmithag intact. In our last article we related about grandparent, aunts and uncles on our dad’s and mom’s side of the family. This article will focus on our immediate family and the terms used for each family member. As we all know, every family has a pecking order from oldest to youngest. Older siblings were always given more responsibilities along with certain privileges. During our formative years our parents and grandparents guided us in our upbringing.

Starting with dad, his children call him “Eñ e!” (My father!) and to make it more personal, some kids call their dad “Eñ o’gach!” (My father!) The suffix “ach” makes it more of a close relationship. In turn dad calls his children “Eñ ałithag!” (My child, singular), or “Eñ a’alithag!” (My children, plural). When introducing us kids to others, dad often said: “Itham ‘o d eñ ałithag!” (These are my children.) He would then give our names to others, dad often said. “Itham ‘o d eh mamad.” (These are my children.) She too, would call out our names from oldest to youngest, as we shook hands with her in her new acquaintance. Those introductions had usually taken place at communal events such as Presbyterian Camp Meetings.

Older brothers and sisters are called “Siku!” (older sibling). As an example, Victoria would say “Eñ siku Jennifer!” (My older sister Jennifer!). Younger brothers and sisters are called “Siku” (younger sibling). In turn, Jennifer would say to her friends “Itha ‘o ḍ eñ venak Jennifer!” (These are my first cousins Anthony, Mary and John!) introducing each from oldest to youngest.

Make a chart of your immediate family, grandparents, aunts and uncles. We encourage you to speak O’otham kinship terms in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker, as some terms maybe slightly different between villages and Clans.

This month’s word search will test your knowledge of O’otham I:mik. A special Thank You for the Vah-Ki District Elders for sharing their knowledge of O’otham I:mik which made this article possible.

Chalihi News
PREMIERING on GRBC TV
Thursday Jan 19 6:30 pm
REPLAYING
Saturday Jan 23 9:30 am

GRBC TV
Follow GRBC on our social media accounts
@gilarivertv

Page 5
From Front Page

working in a unique field. “When I heard he was interested in learning about olives, I know that [he] is the kind of ‘go getter’ we have to have on-board,” she said.

McCabe said, the Lone Star Olive Ranch sees a huge upside for the Community and Gila River Farms to branch out into larger markets, because the olive oil business is a growing industry, with only five percent of olive oil being produced domestically.

Said McCabe: “There’s enormous potential domestically and here in Arizona.”

To learn more about Gila River Farms, go to https://gilariverfarmssales.com/today.

A large mobile processing mill, pictured here in District 5 Gila River Farms, is used to produce olive oil.

District 5 Community member Blue Sky Jones, talks about his experience learning how to produce olive oil.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gila River Indian News January 15, 2021

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

Testing will now take place at GRC.org.

Gila River Community Crisis Hotline: 1-800-259-3449

COVID-19 Test Dates, Flu Vaccines & More!
Visit GRHC.ORG/HUB

All surveillance testing provided by GRHC has been moved to the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Campus and the Komatke Health Center Campus (for Komatke, please call (520) 550-6060 to schedule an appointment.)

Welcome Dr. Ryan Southworth!

Dr Southworth was recently named the Pre-Hospital Medical Director for Gila River Health Care after a nationwide search. The EMS department has been clinically based at Banner Casa Grande Medical Center for the last 25+ years with Dr Southworth as the Medical Director for the last 8 years. “We are excited to start the process of building a state certified EMS Base Station for the Gila River Indian Community that will serve our unique needs and brings all those that provide First Responder, EMT, Paramedic and Dispatch services together under the same base station, treatment protocols and expectations,” states Chief Rainbolt.

The role of the Pre-Hospital Medical Director is to guide the overall clinical performance of the emergency medical services system within a community and provide oversight and training. Department planning, operations, logistics, budgets and staffing remains with the individual department’s leadership structure. Dr Southworth has been engaged in EMS since 1993 as an EMT, Emergency Room Physician and a Lt Colonel in the Air Force Reserve and we are excited to have him.
GRIC Youth and Families Test their Knowledge about the Community

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On Wed Dec. 30, Miss Gila River Royalty hosted a Family Feud event for the Community streamed live on the Gila River Facebook page and aired on Gila River Broadcasting Corp’s (GRBC) channels 19.1 and 29.1. The event featured four families from the Community competing for a prized home entertainment soundbar.

Miss Gila River Alyse Marrietta and Jr. Miss Gila River Sineca Jackson hosted the event in collaboration with GRBC and CPAO Special Events. The event provided a fun and safe virtual evening that allowed for online participation and online interaction from the Community members watching live.

The event served as a way for the Gila River Royalty to interact more with the Community and provide quality programming that fits their joint platform of “Self-Care.” Miss and Jr. Miss are both working on hosting events that will encourage healthy activity during the COVID-19 pandemic that is safe and fun for families.

Participating families were the Hernandez family, the Rhodes family, Notah Good family, and the Escalante family. All participated using the online Zoom teleconference application that allowed everyone to interact, including families located in different homes. Three rounds of gameplay occurred while there were two rounds of gameplay left for a final “feud” between the Hernandez family and Escalante family.

Miss Gila River Alyse Marrietta said, “I think this event was a great reminder that we can have fun at home and maybe can’t spend time with family, but with technology, we can still connect...and to see each other laugh and smile means more to most people during this time.”

Jr. Miss Gila River Sineca Jackson wanted the event to help connect families during the pandemic through virtual competition and accomplished that goal. Jackson said, “We chose this event because it ties in with our platform of self-care and connecting with family while we’re all stuck at home.”

A highlight for Jackson was the extra effort the Rhodes family took. In contrast, they had multiple family members join from various households as a team.

Viewership for the event was significant as Alix Walking Badger, Special Events Coordinator with the Communications & Public Affairs Office, said, “We got a lot of positive feedback about the event, and the families enjoyed participating in the online game, watching the live event, and they even suggested we have more families participate.”

As with any competition, there can only be one winner. For this event, the Hernandez family rose to the top, winning the soundbar for their home. However, all participating families will receive gifts from royalty for their participation.

To date, the broadcast has over 3,000 views on Facebook. It is still viewable on the Gila River Broadcasting Corporation’s Facebook page. Miss and Jr. Miss Gila River are even planning to host events focused on their platforms areas of mental, physical, and spiritual well-being in the Community.

I:mk[1] kishin $olution!

Answers from crosswords puzzle on page 5

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

*NOTICE*
2021 Agricultural Lease Payment

In compliance with SRPMIC Emergency Declaration Directives for COVID-19, the 2021 Agricultural Lease payment to landowners will be made by mail, direct deposit, or SRPMIC Pay Card only. There will be no in person payout.

On Friday, January 22, 2021, Agricultural Lease Payment checks will be mailed to your address on file or, if you have elected to use direct deposit, disbursement will occur to the financial institution on file with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (“SRPMIC”) Finance Department. Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your payment. To update your address or direct deposit information, or to sign up for direct deposit, please contact:

SRPMIC Vendor Maintenance, ph: (480) 362-7729

(*staff is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Arizona time*)

*PAYMENT DUE DATES*
Agricultural Lease Payment is December 16, 2020.

The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 16, 2020.

Please call as soon as possible.

SRPMIC Finance Department. Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your payment. To update your address or direct deposit information, or to sign up for direct deposit, please contact:

The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 16, 2020.

Policies less than $15.00. All direct deposit and Pay Card payments will be disbursed regardless of the amount. For checks less than $15.00, landowners will need to contact the SRPMIC Finance Department and request that a check be mailed. Such checks will be processed 7-10 business days following the request offer January 22, 2021.

Questions? Contact the SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730.

*Payment to an already issued SRPMIC Pay Card, please contact the SRPMIC Finance Department at (480) 362-7730.

*Please call as soon as possible.*

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

In compliance with SRPMIC Emergency Declaration Directives for COVID-19, the 2021 Agricultural Lease payment to landowners will be made by mail, direct deposit, or SRPMIC Pay Card only. There will be no in person payout.

On Friday, January 22, 2021, Agricultural Lease Payment checks will be mailed to your address on file or, if you have elected to use direct deposit, disbursement will occur to the financial institution on file with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (“SRPMIC”) Finance Department. Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your payment. To update your address or direct deposit information, or to sign up for direct deposit, please contact:

SRPMIC Vendor Maintenance, ph: (480) 362-7729

(*staff is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Arizona time*)

*PAYMENT DUE DATES*
Agricultural Lease Payment is December 16, 2020.

The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 16, 2020.

Policies less than $15.00. All direct deposit and Pay Card payments will be disbursed regardless of the amount. For checks less than $15.00, landowners will need to contact the SRPMIC Finance Department and request that a check be mailed. Such checks will be processed 7-10 business days following the request offer January 22, 2021.

Questions? Contact the SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730.

*Payment to an already issued SRPMIC Pay Card, please contact the SRPMIC Finance Department at (480) 362-7730.*

*Please call as soon as possible.*
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • January 6, 2021

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

CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, January 6, 2021, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona, was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:10 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Carol Schurz
ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
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, Marlin Dixon, Brian Davis, Sr.; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:
D4-Vacant; D5-Thomas White

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Presenters: Diana Lopez Jones, Jeffrey Thomas

Quarter & Annual Report FY 2019 / 2020
Presenter: Connie Jackson

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. The Caring House Survey Compliance Informational Summary
Presenter: Dr. Anthony Santiago, Ron Preston, ORHC Board of Directors

ITEM HEARD

> 8. 2020 Regional Needs and Assets Report Draft
Presenter: Joshua Billison

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. 2020 FTF Gila River Indian Community Regional Impact Report
Presenter: Joshua Billison

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

10. COVID – 19 Update
Presenters: Bruce Harvey, Candalerian Preston, Laurie Thomas, Chief Timothy Chavez, Dr. Anthony Santiago, June Shorthair

ITEM HEARD

(GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 12:00 P.M.)

Presenter: Bruce Harvey

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*12. GRIC – Housing Owner’s Team (HOT) (Executive Session)
Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team

ITEM HEARD

13. FY21 Monthly Financial Statement ending November 30, 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Jones

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE REPORT

14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Bruce Harvey

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*13. FY21 Monthly Financial Statement ending November 30, 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

*14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

MOTION HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Bruce Harvey

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*13. FY21 Monthly Financial Statement ending November 30, 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

*14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

MOTION HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Bruce Harvey

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*13. FY21 Monthly Financial Statement ending November 30, 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

*14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

MOTION HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Bruce Harvey

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

MOTION HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Bruce Harvey

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13. FY21 Monthly Financial Statement ending November 30, 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

MOTION HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Bruce Harvey

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

16. CRF Update - Verbal Update (Executive Session)
Presenters: Governor Stephen R. Lewis; Candalerian Preston

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter of Resignation (G&MSC forwards the resignation letter of District Four Councilwoman Monica Antone to Council with recommendation to accept and to fill the position at the Second Council Meeting in January; NRSC, LSC, and EDSC concur)
Presenters: Councilwoman Monica Antone

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

2. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (G&MSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)
Presenters: Government & Management Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

3. Natural Resources Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (LSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)
Presenters: Natural Resources Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

4. Legislative Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (LSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)
Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

5. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (EDSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)
Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

6. CRF Update - Verbal Update (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session)
Presenters: Governor Stephen R. Lewis, Treasurer Robert Keller
Youth Council Hosts Roundtable Discussion with Leadership

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On Wed Dec 30, the Akimel O’otham/ Pee-Posh Youth Council hosted their annual Youth Roundtable, virtually. The event brings together GRIC youth aged 13-21 to brainstorm ideas for what GRIC youth to consider the future of the Community. This year the event was held virtually over the Zoom platform, where 18 GRIC youth attended, along with Community Council Representatives.

The roundtable has been going on for nearly ten years. It tasks GRIC youth ages 13-21 to brainstorm ideas for what they would like to see for the future of the Community. Additionally, it aims to inspire youth to learn valuable skills such as communication, teamwork, self-reliance, and public speaking.

Guided facilitation by Ginger Martin allows participants to express themselves in a safe space for sharing ideas and solutions to some of their most pressing issues. The roundtable’s goal is also to task the youth to consider future policy creation around their collective matters.

Evelyn Enos, District 4, attended this year’s roundtable and said, “Key takeaways from this experience I would say were the brainstorming skills and coming up with solutions on the spot. That is definitely something that I found impressive.” Enos and her group found ways to address the needs of the foster youth population.

Marlène Whitehair, District 3, enjoyed the roundtable even though it was virtual this year. Whitehair said, “Youth today are very aware of many of the issues impacting our generation. As a group, we narrowed it down to three important issues: financial literacy, children’s legal issues, and preserving the culture.” She spoke passionately of the children’s legal issues and found the conversations around this area “impressive and productive.”

Another area of concern was youth mental health. Many found it was an essential aspect for youth. They sought more straightforward access to help and increased capacity for group therapy.

Also, the youth emphasized the need for new resources. Many want to see O’otham and Pee-Posh language classes.

AOPPYC Youth interact with GRIC leadership during a virtual roundtable discussion on Dec. 30. The roundtable was held virtually over the Zoom platform.

At the end of the event, participants shared their ideas with tribal leaders and discussed their solutions in greater detail.

Tribal leaders in attendance for the roundtable report out included: Stephen Roc Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, former Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, Arzie Hogg, District 1 Representative, Regina Antone-Smith, District 4 Representative, Joey Whitman, District 1 Representative, and Avery White, District 3 Representative.

Enos felt the leadership attended with the right mindset. “Something I think is important for tribal leaders to learn is that, as youth, we are constantly thinking about the future, our family’s future, and the entire Community. It’s so important to me that our leaders understand that we are ready to learn as much as they will teach us, and we want to be ready to lead when the time comes.”

A similar sentiment, Whitehair said, “I want my leadership to know that the youth have a voice and innovative ideas to address issues that impact our Community. I want my leadership to know that attending the roundtable showed their support for the youth, encouraged us to engage more with our Community. I like knowing that the Governor and Lieutenant Governor actively participated and listened to our concerns; we felt heard.”

---

**ATTENTION**

Children’s Court essential issues:

Due to public health concerns, the Children’s Court requests your future appearance to be by phone.

Please provide the Court with a valid contact number at least one hour before your scheduled hearing at (520) 862-9860.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.
THE GRTI MOBILE APP

The GRTI mobile app has been updated with the 2021 phone directory listings. The mobile app has all the same listings as the printed version of the GRTI phone directory.

In the app you can also:

- View and Pay Your Bill
- View the GRTI Calendar of Events
- Enable notifications for District Days and bill alerts
- Contact the Customer Service Team

The GRTI mobile app is available on both

GET IT ON Google Play
Download on the App Store

GRTI wants to hear from you!

To help better understand your experience with GRTI as well as the current and future needs of the Community, GRTI is asking customers to take a moment to fill out our online survey.

You will need to use this information to login into the survey.

Survey Address: https://bit.ly/2DX95rd
Login: GRT2020
Password: Survey2020

Eligibility

- Must be 18 years or older
- Resides within GRIC
- Does not need to have active GRTI Service
CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

Oh, Baby
You’re Gonna
Save Some Cash!

Bankruptcy
Divorce
Foreclosure

2018
Kia Sedona LX
Low Miles
Only $289/mo.

2016
Nissan Maxima SR
Starting at
$293/mo.

2020
Nissan Sentras
3 to Choose From
Starting at
$199/mo.

2020
Chevy Equinox
Awesome Savings
$305/mo.

2018
Chevy Silverado LT
SAVE $1000s

2020
Kia Sorento
5,000 Miles
$350/mo.

2019
Ram 1500
Low Miles
Only $385/mo.

2018
Dodge Durango SXT
Amazing
$405/mo.

2017
Ford Expedition EL 4x4
HUGE Savings!
$26,999

2017
Chevy Colorado 4x4
$26,999

2017
Chevy Impala
WOW!
$10,999

2017
Lincoln MKZ
Affordable Luxury
$21,999

2017
Chevy Traverse
3rd Row Seat
$21,999

2017
Chevy Malibu
$199/mo.

2019
Toyota Camry
$255/mo.

2018
Kia Sportage
$255/mo.

New Year,
New You
We offer financing
to get you in a
New Ride in the
New Year!

CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER
1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE
520-836-2112
INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL
www.crossroadsauto.org

*Payment based on 700 credit score, 3.87% APR @ 72 mos. with TIBL down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit. Must present ad at time of purchase. Not all vehicles qualify. Ask manager for details.
ARE YOU A SUNS SUPERFAN?

Immerse in your obsession with a stay in the Suns fanatic room at Wild Horse Pass.

Save 25% off your rate with the Suns Friends and Family rate using promo code **SUNSFF**.

Visit PlayAtGila.com or call 520-796-4900 to book today!