Video Highlights 76th Annual Iwo Jima Flag Raising Virtual Ceremony

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Even the restrictions of a pandemic could not prevent the Community from honoring the historic role played by Ira H. Hayes in the flag raising over Iwo Jima. A 40-minute video of the 76th Annual Iwo Jima Flag Raising Ceremony is now available on the Gila River Broadcasting Corporation’s TV stations and Facebook page.

The video tribute features members of the Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 discussing Hayes’ heroism as a member of the U.S. Marines and the contributions made by many Community members who served in the military during multiple wars. The video includes extensive footage of parades and military flyovers from years past.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone called this year’s virtual celebration an opportunity to “encourage and give thanks for what history and memories have taught us.”

She added: “Unfortunately, we are unable to celebrate in person. However, in the spirit of our hearts and minds and gratitude, we can share our understanding and continue to celebrate even under the circumstances of the pandemic.”

The Battle of Iwo Jima came near the end of a long campaign in the Pacific targeted at reaching the Japanese homeland. Along the way, several key islands would be taken, securing a foothold in the Pacific for American and allied forces.

The raising of the American flag atop Mount Suribachi occurred on February 23, 1945. The flag raisers – including Marine Corporal Hayes – would be captured in one of the most well-known war photos ever taken.

The annual parade and in-person events were canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and limits on crowd size. This included many beloved features of the ceremony, including the annual banquet, flyover and parade, which culminates in a memorial raising of the flags and laying of the wreath blessing at the Matthew B. Juan – Ira H. Hayes memorial park in Sacaton.

The event annually draws thousands of spectators, including visiting veterans who march down Casa Blanca Road.

Bill Dixon, Commander of Ira H. Hayes Post 84 welcomed viewers to the virtual event and shared how the event first began. He also acknowledged and thanked the many people and departments, along with Gila River Indian Community leadership, Gila River Police Department, Gila River Fire and EMS, Department of Transportation and District 3 Service Center who assisted with the annual event.

The video emphasized the history of the Matthew B. Juan – Ira H. Hayes Park located in Sacaton where many events have been held. The park is named after Hayes and after Matthew B. Juan, the first Arizonan to be
COVID-19 VACCINE OPPORTUNITIES

ELIGIBILITY
GRIC Tribal Enrolled members 18+ years old (includes GRIC urban members) AND 18+ years old residing in the boundaries of GRIC.

- GRIC Tribal Enrolled members must bring their tribal identification to vaccination site.
- 18+ years old residing in the boundaries of GRIC must provide proof of residency i.e. mail with name and address indicated.

HU HU KAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Schedule an appointment 602-528-1482
Monday - Friday
8 AM - 4 PM

KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER
Schedule an appointment 602-528-1482
Monday - Friday
8 AM - 4 PM

D3 SACATON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
WALK-IN BASIS
Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday
9 AM - 3 PM
Thursday: 9 AM - 4 PM

D6 KOMATKE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
Times: 9 AM - 3 PM
3/10-3/11
3/17-3/19
3/24-3/25
3/31

Transportation for individuals residing within GRIC boundaries, call (520) 562-3321 ext. 1384 to schedule your transportation as soon as possible. COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Gila River Health Care recommends frequent testing for anyone who has not been tested or previously tested negative and no symptoms. COVID-19 Surveillance Testing is available at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital and Komatke Health Center. For more information, visit the GRHC/HUB.ORG or call the COVID Hotline at 520-550-6079.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS BY THE NUMBER

Over 3200 GRIC Tribal enrollment members
Vaccinations were administered to date.

Each vaccination gets us one step closer to bringing an end to the COVID pandemic.

GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE CONTINUES TO GROW TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ITS PATIENTS.

Reminder!
Gila River Health Care’s Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics will be
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY 4/2/2021
GoFundMe to Help Community Member Fight Cancer

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Kevin Lewis on a family outing with son (left) Kaleb and daughter (right) Lily. Lewis was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer.

He said before learning of his diagnosis, he experienced an excessive sense of fullness even after eating only small portions of food. “I would eat something and would feel really bloated to a point where I couldn’t eat anymore, but I hadn’t really eaten that much,” he explained. Lewis said that while his insurance has helped pay some of his medical bills, the additional support from the GoFundMe campaign will allow him to start his chemotherapy treatment right away – on Monday, March 1st. He described moving quickly with his treatment as “very crucial in order to control and stop the cancer from spreading to other parts of the body.”

Lewis spoke of his stomach cancer as a source of significant abdominal and lower back pain which requires regular management, including the selection of foods that are easier on his digestive system. Since sharing his diagnosis with family, friends and colleagues, Lewis – who has a son, Kaleb, and a daughter, Lily – said he has received generous support from people wanting to check on him, give him rides to appointments or find other ways to help. Lewis said he and his girlfriend, Rebecca Uribe, can barely believe the generosity they have experienced. “Their offering to make food, drive me to appointments and watch the kids, the outpouring has been incredible,” he said. “I can’t put into words the response and support that we’ve gotten.”

The GoFundMe campaign can be found online at https://bit.ly/3em8Em or by searching under the name: “Help Support Kevin ‘Pima Bear’ Lewis’s Fight!” The outpouring of support gives us a boost of confidence and morale,” said Lewis. “This is something I want to push through and get to a good spot, being there for my kids’ future.”
it as an example of what we might be able to do in the future." Other partners who made the events possible include the Wild Horse Pass Development Authority, Rawhide Western Town and Events Center, the Phoenix Rising Football Club and Relentless Beats.

While the vaccines have shown to be highly effective at preventing COVID-19, the CDC recommends that all people – even those who have been vaccinated – continue to wear a face mask, maintain appropriate physical distance around others and wash your hands to reduce the chance of being exposed and spreading the virus.

Dr. Reidhead, the Indian Health Service Area Director, described the vaccine becoming more widely accepted as the rollout continues.

The doctor cited extensive trials in the development of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, and called them absolutely safe and 95% effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

“It’s very important to get the vaccine,” said Jason Jackson, a resident of District 6. “I was thinking about my family and doing what I can to protect them,” said Jackson.

GRHC continues to offer vaccinations through appointments with Huhukam Memorial Hospital and Komatke Health Center. Komatke Boys & Girls Club during the month of March, community members can also walk-in at the District 3 Boys & Girls Club in Sacaton or the District 6 Komatke Boys & Girls Club weekdays between 9 am and 3 pm.

A member of the Arizona National Guard administers a COVID-19 vaccine to Sarai Ortiz, District 5, at the drive-thru vaccination event on Feb. 20.

Members from Gila River Indian Community leadership, Council, GRHC, AZNG and federal partners were unified to make the GRIC vaccination event possible on 2/20.

Gov. Lewis thanks the many vaccination workers, for their tireless efforts to combat the pandemic. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Joyce and Ferguson Burnette await their turn at the Community vaccine event on Feb. 20. Joyce encouraged her fellow Community members to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

A member of the Arizona National Guard administers a COVID-19 vaccine to Sarai Ortiz, District 5, at the drive-thru vaccination event on Feb. 20.

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Joyce and Ferguson Burnette await their turn at the Community vaccine event on Feb. 20. Joyce encouraged her fellow Community members to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
Rawhide Staff Plays Lead Role In Vaccination Events

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

When it comes to hosting large-scale events like concerts and the annual Mul-Chi-Tha Fair & Rodeo, the Rawhide Western Town and Event Center has many years of experience. The Rawhide team’s familiarity with handling big crowds was especially useful as they worked with the GRIC unified command task force to help coordinate the Community’s drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination events held last month.

Combined, the Feb. 13th and Feb. 20th events had more than 1,500 attendees there to get vaccinated together with hundreds of volunteers and staffers. Even with the large crowds, the two events went off without a hitch. Part of the reason for that success was the more than 100 Rawhide members who assisted with security, traffic control, transportation, site prep and feeding and providing water for workers and attendees.

“We really wanted to make sure that we demonstrated to the Community members that they can depend on every one of the agencies that they already look to, but also to the agencies they might not think of,” said Mark Grado, who has served as Rawhide’s General Manager for the past two years. Grado said a lot has changed for Rawhide during his time as GM. The venue – an enterprise of the Wild Horse Pass Development Authority, which also oversees the Gila River Hotels & Casinos – has been faced with multiple challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, including restriction and closures that have slowed down the entertainment business.

Even so, Grado said his team has overcome many of these challenges by being flexible and creative. One example: Rawhide has been able to bring back live entertainment by creating “pod concerts.” This allows guests to attend live events while being separated in an 8x10 space (pod) for each group. The pod style was also used for the Community’s graduation event last year. Rawhide also created revenue through a partnership with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, which uses the venue’s vast space to house Enterprise cars that are not in use. Rawhide continues to host events at Wild Horse Pass Motor Sports Park and at their event center. All such events have limited capacities, social distancing and other safety precautions enforced.

New GRPD Patrol Unit Pays Tribute to Native Veterans

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Police Department (GRPD) debuted a new patrol car dedicated to honoring and acknowledging veterans of the United States military branches. The new patrol unit, which took to the road last month, is the only police unit dedicated to military veterans out of all 22 Native American tribes in Arizona.

The veterans patrol car’s paint features desert “camo,” reflecting the Community’s vast desert landscape. A silhouette graphic of the Iwo Jima Flag Raising adorns the rear windows, to memorialize Marine Corps veteran, passed away, the family asked Sims to lead the funeral procession for the many sacrifices made by Native American veterans.

GRPD Sgt. Robert Sims Jr., a Marine veteran, stands next to a patrol unit wrapped to honor members of the military. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Sims Jr., a United States Marine Corps veteran who has been with GRPD since 2006. Sims served as the Grand Marshal for the City of Phoenix’s Annual Veteran’s Day Parade in 2019.

Sgt. Sims says he feels honored to drive the specially decorated patrol unit, which he calls a symbol of the service and many sacrifices made by Native American veterans. Native and non-Native veterans alike frequently ask to photograph the car because of how special it is, says Sims.

One specific assignment from earlier this year stands out for Sims as especially meaningful. When a fellow GRPD sergeant’s father, a Marine Corps veteran, passed away, the family asked Sims to lead the funeral procession in the specially marked patrol vehicle. Following a police escort, Sims led the family safely from Chandler all the way to District 1.

GRPD Police Chief Timothy Chavez shared that 40 veterans presently work for the department, serving as supervisors, officers, detectives, rangers and civilian employees. Chavez called the vehicle a tribute to all veterans.

“This beautiful patrol vehicle will serve to honor the United States veterans at GRPD,” he said, “while also honoring our Community members who are United States veterans.”

GRPD Assistant Chief William Morago played an integral role in acquiring the patrol car and selecting its driver. He says he’s thrilled with the look of the vehicle and the choice of Sgt. Sims to drive it. Morago also believes the patrol car will serve as a recruitment tool, showcasing the many opportunities GRPD has available for veterans.

“We... support our veterans,” welcome them here.” said the Assistant Chief. “We

Gila River Indian News March 5, 2021

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GRILA RIVER BROADCASTING CORP
From Front Page

killed during the Battle of Cantigny in World War I.
Oscar Urrea, member of Post 84, assisted in the design and construction project for the park and shared how funding was raised. Lance and Shirley Lewis also led and organized the project for the park. The park features a stone based, bronzed monument to the
Iwo Jima Flag Raising and bronze statues of both
Juan and Hayes. The park was intended to bring community members and the local public to a place of “reflection and comfort,” said Urrea, who called it a place of “spiritual healing” for many.

Lt. Gov. Antone shared stories of her family attending and participating in the annual parade, recalling the parade in 2019 which featured Ira’s brother, the late Kenneth Hayes, who served in the
Korean War.

“A heartfelt thank you to all our veterans as well as the Ira Hayes Post 84 for continuing to carry on this important event each year,” said Antone.

She highlighted the high rate of military service among Native Americans. Louis Fredrico, Post 84 Finance Officer, highlighted Hayes’ achievements and honors, including the Commendation ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign medal, American Campaign medal and World War II Victory medal.

Tony McDaniel, Post 84 Adjutant and Coordinator, thanked past participants of the event.

“Their stories of the rain and the beautiful weather, you have all honored military past, military history with us, and I thank you for that,” said McDaniel. He noted that the event continues to grow from its start in 1988 as “Recognition Day.”

Governor Lewis remarked that “our Community takes great pride in our record of service and in those who serve. And it isn’t just while they are in the military. I can point to so many examples of those whose call to service didn’t end when they came home, including those who serve on our Community Council, and other important positions throughout the Community.”

The 77th Flag Raising Memorial will be held Feb. 19, 2022. This year’s virtual ceremony can be seen on the Gila River Broadcasting Corp. Facebook page and channels 19.1 29.1.
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Our valued customers now have the ability to choose.

On hold and don’t have time to wait?

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Now hiring talented and motivated individuals, no prior experience is needed and training will be provided. Individuals can turn their job into a career.

Visit the GRTI website for current job opportunities or call NTS at 480-639-1234.

Native Technology Solutions is a Gila River Indian Community-owned-and-operated business providing services such as structured cabling, access control systems, security systems and fiber optic networks to customers on and off the Gila River Indian Community.
Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act Introduced in United States Senate and House of Representatives

Communications & Public Affairs Office
Sacaton, AZ – On Feb. 23, the United States Senators Kelly and Sinema introduced S. 371, the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act into the Senate. This Senate legislation is identical to the House version of the bill introduced on January 25th by Congressman Tom O’Halleran. The Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act instructs the Secretary of the Interior to take the 55 acres where the historic Blackwater Trading Post was located into trust for the Gila River Indian Community. The lands are owned by the Community and bordered on three sides by the Reservation. Acquiring the lands in trust will allow the Community to conduct land use plans for the parcel and the surrounding lands. Identical legislation was introduced in the 116th Congress and passed the House of Representatives, but stalled in the Senate. The land at question holds historical and cultural significance to the Community as the site of the Blackwater Trading Post that was established nearly 100 years ago. The Trading Post operated until 2010 when the family that had operated the Trading Post for roughly 60 years sold the lands to the Community.

At that time, the Community recovered over 1,000 cultural items that had been traded for items at the Post and stored in the museum at the Post. These culturally significant items were later recovered and now reside within the Community’s Huagusem Center. Governor Stephen Roe Lewis applauded the introduction of the legislation, stating “The Gila River Indian Community is appreciative that our Senate and House delegation have prioritized introduction of the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act early in this session.” This non-controversial legislation is important to the Community and to our members residing in District 1 of the Reservation. I look forward to working with Senator Kelly, Senator Sinema, and Congressman O’Halleran to make sure this legislation passes each chamber and is signed into law.” The House version of the bill, H.R. 478 was introduced on January 25, 2021, and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. The Senate version, S. 371, was introduced on February 22, 2021, and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

Councilmembers Arzie Hogg and Joey Whitman, from District 1 of the Community stated, “We look forward to swift passage of this legislation so we can work with our members in the best use of this parcel that has been so significant to the Community’s history and to our future.”

“The Gila River Indian Community values its historical and cultural connection to the Blackwater Trading Post. I believe the trading post and adjoining land should be placed under the care and management of the Gila River Indian Community. I want to thank Governor Roe Lewis for his leadership on this issue and that we continue to expand jobs and educational opportunities for all Arizonans,” said Senator Kyrsten Sinema.

“I am honored to represent Arizona’s First Congressional District, which is home to twelve sovereign tribal nations,” said Rep. O’Halleran. “As Members of Congress, we have the great privilege of being able to restore tribal homelands. The Gila River Indian Community has this right to the Blackwater Trading Post parcel, and I’m humbled to be able to re-introduce legislation that builds upon the efforts of many in the Gila River Indian Community to acquire it.”

GRYC Youth Host Virtual Sessions Exploring Mental Health

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On Feb. 25, The Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) and Gila River Health Care’s Behavioral Health Services (BHS) began hosting Youth Council (AOPPYC) and O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Mind Space sessions to explore mental health.

The Youth Mind Space is hosted through the virtual platform Zoom. AOPPYC members lead the workshops with Behavioral Health Services staff. BHS Staff helps to formulate the discussion topics and to break down the science behind depression, anxiety, and clinical terms. BHS counselors are also in attendance in case anyone requires additional support throughout a session. The Youth Mind Space collaboration also includes the Gila River Broadcasting Corp. (GRBC) for media support. GRBC screens short videos during each session to establish the topic of the night and motivate the discussion that follows.

Susanna Osife, AOPPYC President, says the discussions are open and encouraging. “The discussions are important because they’re about our experiences, how we’ve been affected during this time, what we go through.” said Osife. “When one person shares, it shows others that they’re not alone.” Osife also explained that the more young people share at the session, the more it empowers everyone to better recognize signs of depression better, listen to their peers, and provide necessary resources for those who need it.

Member Osife also explained how students can participate. “Youth Mind Space occurs every Thursday from 8 p.m.- 9 p.m. through the Zoom application. Anyone interested in registering for future sessions should contact Anna Pacheco at apacheco@grhcc.org or Michael Preston at youthcouncil@gric.nsn.us.

FACE Program Still Holding Enrollment

CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Monthly Family Circles with Guest Speakers.

Center Base Services have Preschool for ages 3 – 5 yrs old with Parent preparing students for Kindergarten. Virtual classes are weekly Monday thru Thursday, based on family schedule from 8 – 11 AM.

Adult Education Services provide Adult Parents with Penn Foster High School courses and Career readiness. Other additional classes are provided like Reading, Sewing, Gardening & Art Classes.

Totally Virtual

Home Base Services are looking for new families from Prenatal to 3 yrs old. Parent Educators have weekly virtual classes teaching positive Parenting and educating families in Employment & Family Goals. There are totally virtual classes for families to attend in comfort of their homes.

Phone: (520) 315-3489
Address: 3455 W. Casa Blanca Rd.  
Team – Kim Franklin, Principal/Coordinator  
Pamela Ahmensay, Parent Educator  
Elizabeth Young, Parent Educator  
Pearlene Wilson, Adult Education  
Harrietta Roy, Early Childhood Teacher

GRYC Youth Host Virtual Sessions Exploring Mental Health

Is quarantine getting to you? Are you bored? Do you wish things would get back to normal?

EACH THURSDAY  
starting February 11, 2021  
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Via Zoom

Youth leading youth with videos, activities, daily stressors, healthy ways to cope, and making positive change.

To register and get more information: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/78XNNRZ

Questions? Contact:

Anna Pacheco  
apacheco@grhcc.org

Michael Preston  
michaelpreston@grhcc.org

March 5, 2021
Gila River Indian News
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2021 Mul-Chu-Tha Fair & Rodeo
** CANCELED **

The 2021 Mul-Chu-Tha Fair & Rodeo has been canceled due to safety concerns related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We hope to see you next year!
Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community’s Sheraton Grand & Spa at Wild Horse Pass (SGWHP) has again received one of the highest honors awarded in the travel and hospitality industry. On Feb. 23rd, the Aji Spa and Kai restaurant both received Five-Star awards from Forbes Travel Guide.

This is the second time the Community’s popular resort and its spa and restaurant have received the designations.

“To be recognized by Forbes Travel Guide with Five Star honors for Aji Spa and Kai makes us extremely proud of our hard working and dedicated team,” said Bunny Ahmed, General Manager of SGWHP in a press release.

SGWHP is the only resort in Arizona to host both a restaurant and spa with Five-Star rating.

The Community’s Resort & Spa Receives Prestigious Forbes Ratings

The Forbes Travel Guide description also mentions the artwork created by the late Mike Zilliox of District 7. His work lines the walls of Kai and captures the Community’s landscapes, including South Mountain and Estrella Mountain.

Forbes’ ratings are independently verified through a self-paid stay made by a magazine representative who checks-in as a regular guest without prior notice to the hotel. The unannounced visit ensures an authentic experience without bias to service, creating a fair rating for hotels, spas and restaurants.

In addition to Kai’s award, Jeremy Stulak was named a finalist for the Restaurant Employee of the Year by Forbes Travel Guide.

In keeping with the culture of the Community, the word Kai represents “Seed,” while Aji means “Sanctuary.” Each of these words are indicative of the amenities available at the Sheraton Grand, where Kai’s chefs try to merge the Community’s culture into modern-day culinary masterpieces and the Spa strives to offer relaxation available nowhere else.

Aji Spa and Kai restaurant rank among 90 Five-Star spas and 73 hotels in their respective categories—and they are only such amenities located within a Native American community.

The review of Kai de-
The sixth annual Governor’s Education Summit is being held entirely online this year, allowing participants to engage in workshops and educational sessions even while COVID-19 restrictions remain in place. The Summit’s first sessions – held on Feb. 26th and 27th – highlighted the work of the Tribal Education Department’s (TED) Culture and Language Program.

Participants were welcomed by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. “I’m honored that everyone took time to come together collectively to support the great discussions and presentations we’re going to have,” said the Governor, who also encouraged everyone to remain safe and strong as “we come out of the pandemic stronger as the resilient people that we all are.”

TED Director Isaac Salcido began the first sessions by acknowledging the teachers in attendance. “Hats off to all the teachers for sticking with your commitment to teaching language and culture throughout the pandemic,” said Salcido. “You all took on the [virtual] challenge and delivered.” Salcido also thanked Gov. Lewis for attending and his commitment to these annual summits.

The Summit’s second session – held on Feb. 28th – focused on gathering feedback to help inform how to provide the most effective language program throughout the Community. The session was the first time TED’s Culture and Language program gave a presentation asking for feedback to develop a Community Language Plan. Gray said discussions were fruitful and led to excellent feedback throughout session II. He mentioned that the post-sessions survey showed positive and encouraging feedback on the first two sessions.

The remaining education summit sessions will occur throughout March, and will highlight different aspects of TED and its services. For more information on registering for the summit, you can call TED at (520) 562-3662.

2020 COVID-19 General Welfare Checks

The second round of COVID-19 GW checks mailed out on October 2, 2020 will be expiring soon! These checks void 180 days after the date of issue, which is March 31, 2021.

If you did not receive your check and/or have questions regarding the payment, please contact our Office at (520) 562-5222 or by email at gricpercapita@gric.nsn.us.

Thank you,

The Per Capita Office

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Notice Is hereby given that the Directors of Casa Blanca Middle School, Inc., an Arizona cooper- partner corporation with an address of P.O. Box 9388, Surprise, Arizona 85387, have appointed Judith Otis, the current Director, and that the Board of Directors is winding up and settling the affairs of the corporation as provided by Arizona law. On December 23, 2020, the Arizona Corporations Commission approved the filing of the Articles of Dissolution.
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • February 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, February 17, 2021, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:04 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

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, Marlin 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 #3 AND RESOLUTION #2
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORT #2, #4, and #6 THROUGH #13, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTION #1, ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #2 AND #3
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS
*1. Housing Owner’s Team Report (Executive Session) Presenters: Housing Owner’s Team and Arzie Hogg
ITEM HEARD
>2. Community Technology Center 1st Quarter Report FY 2020/2021 Presenter: Connie Jackson
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>4. Gila River Asset Management-Great Call Rapid Response System 1st Quarter Report Presenters: Miane Men, Jim Myers, and Board of Directors
ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:18 A.M.]

5. COVID-19 Update Presenters: B. Harvey, C. Preston, L. Thomas, R Jackson, T. Chavez, A. Santiago
ITEM HEARD
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>7. Blackwater Community School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021 Presenter: Jagdish Sharma
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>8. Sacaton Elementary School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021 Presenter: Wanda Burton
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>9. Sacaton Middle School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021 Presenter: Cindy Lewis
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>10. Casa Blanca Community School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021 Presenter: Lillian Kim Franklin
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>11. Gila Crossing Community School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For

Action Sheets Continued from Page 13
IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

Tiffany Marie Charles
Petitioner/Plaintiff

VS.

Gabriel Garcia
Respondent/Defendant

Case: FM-2020-0066-PT

Civil Summons

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community For the Food Distribution Program On Indian Reservations (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Joanne Brewer

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Authorizing and Approving The Food Distribution Program On Indian Reservations (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Jennifer Burkhalter, Jim Meyers, Board of Directors

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>12. GRTI 4Q 2020 Update

Presenters: Jim Mosley

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>13. Federal Communications Commission Form 555 Annual Filing

Presenters: Gabriel Garcia

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>1. A Resolution Authorizing and Approving The Community Services Department To Accept Awards Funded For Fiscal Years 2021-2025 From The United States Department Of Agriculture On Behalf Of The Gila River Indian Community For The Food Distribution Program On Indian Reservations (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Jennifer Burkhalter, Jim Meyers, Board of Directors

RESOLUTIONS

>1. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Community Services Department To Accept Awarded Funds For Fiscal Years 2021-2025 From The United States Department Of Agriculture On Behalf Of The Gila River Indian Community For The Food Distribution Program On Indian Reservations (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Joanne Brewer

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement For Aging Services And Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity For The Limited Purpose Of Arbitration And Enforcement Of Any Arbitration Award Between The State Of Arizona, Acting By And Through Its Department Of Economic Security And The Gila River Indian Community Through The Community Services Department (G&MSC forwards to Council under Resolutions with the additional information and a memorandum to be provided; H&SSC concurs in addition to the correction to the resolution title)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Natural Resources Standing Committee One (1) Appointment

Presenters: Community Services Department MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT RODNEY JACKSON TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES STANDING COMMITTEE NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Farms Board of Directors Declaration of One (1) Vacancy (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for any interested Council member to submit a letter of interest on submittal)

Presenters: Gila River Farms Board of Directors MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT JENNIFER ALLISON TO THE FARM BOARD

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on:

Court Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 9:00 am in Courtroom I.

AKIMEL O’OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your response shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

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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 Phoenix Zoo’s endangered wildlife conservation and habitat revival efforts. When you play with us, you play for good.