GRIC Observes Inaugural MMIP Awareness Day May 5

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On Wednesday, May 5, Community Members from everywhere sported red shirts, hats, and accessories to acknowledge Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) Awareness Day. Additionally, the Community hosted its first MMIP virtual Walk/Run, challenging all to run or walk 1.5 miles while wearing the color red to honor those lost or missing.

“The Hoop Dream is back on track,” said Corrinne Antone, Tribal Education Director. “It was a huge day for many families that have endured loss and murdered people,” said Antone, who called him a “good kid” who always worked hard.

Antone also encouraged everyone to join the MMIP Walk/Run “in honor of those that are missing or for the missing heartbeat of a loved one.”

Shannon Redbird, Community Relations Specialist with CPAO, monitored everyone participating and felt moved by the stories and testimonials shared that day using the hashtag #GRICMMIP. “We have done various events in the Community, but this one that we have seen the most outpouring of support for,” said Redbird.

Community involvement for its first MMIP event was remarkable, with about 700 people registering for the Walk/Run. Within the first four hours, the event saw 350 registrations peaking to 500 at the end of the first day. Of that 700, a large number registered from out of state as well.

While the walk/run was a success, the work will continue after May 5. Since 2019, the Community has dedicated efforts to creating improved public safety systems, policies, and protocols to address MMIP issues locally.

Sunshine Whitehair, Senior Assistant General Counsel at GRIC Office of General Counsel, authored the Community Council resolution declaring May 5 as MMIP Awareness Day. Whitehair shared that May 5 was emotional for her and her team. She described her pride seeing the movement receiving the awareness it deserves.

Whitehair shared that since 2019 GRIC established a multi-departmental MMIP Response Team that has created collaborative support and improved multi-jurisdictional communications to investigate, solve or bring closure to MMIP cases. To date, the GRIC Response Team has attended multiple cases.

Continued on page 5

District 3 High School Basketball Player Signs with Northland Pioneer College

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Four-years in the making, a hoop dream finally came to fruition for a high school student from District 3. Nicolas Harrison, who played for Coolidge High School, has officially announced his commitment to play basketball and attend Northern Pioneer College in Holbrook, Arizona.

Coming off of a successful senior year playing basketball, Harrison made the announcement with family at the CHS Bears gymnasium on May 8.

“There were a lot of schools to choose from. It was a hard decision, but I felt this one stood out to me the most,” said Harrison.

Four-years in the making, a huge day for many families that have endured loss and murdered people,” said Antone, who called him a “good kid” who always worked hard.

Nicolas Harrison (center), with parents, holds-up a Northland Pioneer College shirt, where he will play collegiate basketball.

Harrison thanked his family and parents for supporting his interest in playing basketball, which has been his principal passion since he was a young boy. He also expressed his gratitude to CHS staff and Tribal Education Student Services staff for their support in school and on the court.

“I am very proud of him. [He] has a very good talent with basketball,” said Corrine Escalante, Harrison’s grandmother, who called him a “good kid” who has “come a long way,” and who has never been afraid to work hard to follow his dream.

“This is a huge day for Nick,” said Ben Armstrong, CHS Principal. “[You] have been his support system. I have seen you all at each and every one of his games,” said Armstrong, speaking to Harrison’s family and friends.

The principal emphasized what a rare opportunity it is to play basketball at the college level.

“We are really thankful and blessed that he has chosen a school that is a best fit for him,” said Carolyn Escalante, Harrison’s mother. “There was a lot of family and community support, even among his teammates and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis,” said Carolyn, who added that Nick’s long hours and weekends in gymnasia, parks and the backyard, were all meant to foster and support his passion for basketball.

“He decided to stay in Arizona and chose the school that offered first, a good education and then basketball,” said Danny, Harrison’s father. Danny said his son grew a lot in his last year of high school basketball. “He made a comeback from an injury that he suffered from during his Junior year. He grew a lot in how he was able to analyze the game a little more.”

Harrison said that he looks forward to playing basketball at NCP and the challenge and experiences he can gain from playing basketball at the collegiate level. Aside from basketball, he would like to pursue a degree in the medical field or in physical therapy.

Looking back at his last year in high school, Harrison explained that the pandemic created a lot of adversity. Even so, Harrison expressed pride in the mark he made on the Coolidge basketball team and said he hopes to do the same at NCP.

Between graduation and starting his first year of college, Harrison and the Native Hoop Boyz plan to play in the 2021 Native American Basketball Invitational this summer.
In recognition of Memorial Day, Gila River Health Care’s Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics will be

**CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY**

**MAY 31, 2021**

**HHKMH Pharmacy Hours**

- **Saturday, May 29th**: 8:30 am – 12 am
- **Sunday, May 30th**: 12 pm – 10 pm
- **Monday, May 31st**: CLOSED

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call GRHC’s main line (520) 562-3321. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday, 6/1/2021. If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

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**Alluvion Communications**

Alluvion Communications offers a suite of mission-critical enterprise communications solutions that are always smart, fast, and reliable. Our bespoke services introduce service provider options to markets with our own unique network and local network operations center.

Alluvion Communications is a subsidiary of Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. and is 100% GRIC owned. Incorporated in 2006, Alluvion began as an HPBX CLEC. Today, Alluvion has grown to become a provider of enterprise fiber, data, and voice services. Our fiber network continues to grow throughout Pinal and Maricopa Counties.

Job creation, network expansion, and 24/7 local support are among the many benefits Alluvion provides to the Gila River Indian Community. As our network grows, so does our team! We work with community entities to recruit local talent and offer training and employment to GRIC members.

To learn more, visit [www.alluvion.net/blog](http://www.alluvion.net/blog) and follow us on social media.

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**GRIC Elder Tech Training - Learn How to Create Your Own Gmail Account**

Alluvion Communications has created a webpage which contains training material for GRIC elders who are using Amazon Fire 7 tablets and WebEx to attend virtual meetings.

The latest addition to our training material is a document providing instruction on how to create your own Gmail account. An email account is required to set up your Kindle Fire 7.

Visit [www.alluvion.net/GRIC](http://www.alluvion.net/GRIC) to view the “Creating a Gmail Account” document to get started.

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**Alluvion Bringing Fiber Optic into the Heart of Coolidge, AZ**

Alluvion has begun the next phase of our fiber optic network expansion into Coolidge. Our team is constructing laterals off the fiber backbone that was installed around the city in 2020.

Read more about the project on our blog at [www.alluvion.net/blog](http://www.alluvion.net/blog).
Gila River Royalty Hosts Presentations for Mental Health Awareness Month

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

In one example, a male participant described discovering a love for cooking and shared how he faced scrutiny growing up. In the end, the individual shared that he came to understand that everyone is different. Furthermore, as they are happy and helping their family, they remain confident as a person despite differing views. Because this topic can be challenging for some, they were present for anyone who felt they might need additional support.

This month, there will be two more presentations. A session on “Virtual Fatigue,” is set for May 20, and a Mental Health Roundtable Discussion with tribal royalty is scheduled for Thursday, May 27.

For more information about the presentations, you can email Gila River royalty and gilariverroyalty@gric.nsn.us

Blackwater Trading Post Legislation Passes U.S. House

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

On May 13, 2021, the United States House of Representatives passed H.R. 478, the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act. This legislation would bring the 55.3 acres where the Blackwater Trading Post is located into trust for the Community. The bipartisan vote of 349 to 74 established nearly a century culturally-important parcel can be recovered and now reside in the Community’s Huhugam Heritage Center.

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TOGETHER LET'S END THIS GROWING EPIDEMIC!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Missing & Murdered Indigenous People Awareness Walk/Run #GRICMMIP
Kai Chuk’lik Mashath –
O’otham Haichu Ñeo’ok

As our Community returns to a certain degree of normalcy, we will once again speak O’otham haichu ñeo’ok not spoken during the stay-at-home order. As service centers and businesses begin to open up, one phrase we will no longer hear is “Hath ku:ch eñ thashgach!” (We’re closed today!). Eventually, things will return to pre-pandemic conditions, as our Community members adapted to the challenges brought upon us by the emergency.

As we anticipate our Tribal assistance payments and income tax refunds, a few phrases we will hear are, “Tho bango wi: ko pa:ts éñ cha:gi!” (I’m going to the bank to cash my check!). Some modern O’otham have direct deposit, or per capita debit card and rarely visit the bank in person anymore.

One thing is for certain, we will take our vehicles to get checked and serviced. We will hear O’otham proclaim aloud, “Sr’o’i beich hejel memaltham k ga hu ‘o vu: a’o kekch.” (I’ll take my car there and leave it to be fixed.) This completed, in preparation of our daily commute back to work, as we close our home offices.

Continued from front page

state, tribal and federal meetings and trainings regarding MMIP issues, created new or updated current MMIP protocols to improve responses and GRIC department policies to reflect best practices, organized Community department “Call Trees” for immediate notification purposes, designed an awareness campaign, and created a specialized team for locating minors, missing individuals, and runaways, which includes a GRPD civilian investigator to serve as a liaison with families and is currently developing a GRIC specific training for first responders and employees, and proposing updates to the Community’s Criminal Code concerning MMIP cases, to include the offense of human trafficking enforceable by law.

Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

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**O’otham Haichu Ñeo’ok—Match the phrase with its picture!**

*Nd’o’i beich hejel memaltham k gu ha ‘o vu: a’o kekch.*

_Tho vop thoth gegos!_

_Bo sha a’apa!_

_Nolavth veich eh hejel memaltham!_

_Manth ‘o me: ko chegim eh hahajuñ kì: up!_

_Tho bango wi: ko pa:ts éñ cha:gi!_

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**Gila River Police Department Incident Logs**

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_Please refer to the page for additional details._

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**Gila River Police Department Incident Logs**

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*Photo courtesy of the Nish Family*

*Photo courtesy of the Torres Family*

*Photo courtesy of the Ali Antone Family*
Chelsea Ann Miles
Ottawa University
Master of Arts Degree, School Counseling
I would like to make a shout out to my family, who never doubted me for a second. I love you guys. To my friends, colleagues and mentors (where my Head Start peeps), who believed in me and encouraged me, from the bottom of my heart, Thank You.
One Love,

Maria Varelas
Arizona State University
Bachelor of Social Work

Dallas A. Addison
Georgia State University
Bachelor of Science, Psychology
Thank you to my family and thank you God for everything.

Michelle Marion
Bemidji State University, in Northern Minnesota

Sarah Springer
University of South Carolina
Bachelor’s of Science
Thank you to the Gila River Indian Community, Education Department and Student Services for giving me the opportunity to earn a college degree. With your support, I graduated at the University of South Carolina in the College of Hospitality, Retail and Sports Management with a Bachelor of Science with Honors/Cum Laude. I wore the GRIC graduation sash with pride, honor and gratitude.

Shawn Terry Cortez
College of the Desert
Associate of Arts: Liberal Arts Social & Behavioral Sciences
Continuing school: California State University, Los Angeles

Ashley Thompson
Chandler-Gilbert Community College
Associate of Arts, Associates of Science Nursing
Thank you, family, friends, and staff of Tribal Education, for the continuous support!

Frankie Hernandez
Arizona State University
Bachelor’s of Science Arizona State University/Health Science

Nicholas Taylor Salazar
Grand Canyon University
Bachelor of Arts, Christian Studies
Mare Sape Gila River Indian Community, for supporting me and believing in me.

Jasmine Danielle Goulette Reece
Arizona State University, Tempe
Bachelor’s of Art (Magna Cum Laude)
Organization Leadership (Project Management)
Masters of Science Organization Leadership, Spring 2022
(Awaiting acceptance into program)

Thomas Jacob Cortez
University of California, Riverside
Bachelor of Arts, Education
Continuing school: University of Southern California
Thank you, Gila River Indian Community, and my amazing advisors Danielle Allen and Billy Tewanima. Huge thanks to my parents for making this possible.

Danielle L. Pagat
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Bachelor of Arts, Organization Leadership
Magna Cum Laude
I am truly thankful for the wonderful opportunity through GRIC. I was able to accomplish my dreams with this amazing opportunity and I hope others go for their dreams as well.

Krystal Sheppard-Eppinger
Arizona State University
Bachelor of Arts, Organization Leadership
I am truly thankful for the wonderful opportunity through GRIC. I was able to accomplish my dreams with this amazing opportunity and I hope others go for their dreams as well.

Cameron Johnson
Arizona State University
Bachelor of Education, Special Education/Elementary Education
A huge thank you to all of my family and friends for their continued support! I am so excited to be teaching in the Mesa Public Schools in the fall, as an Autism teacher.

 rowNum=0

Ruth M. Jackson
Northern Arizona University
Bachelor, Intid. Studies—Public Administration
Continuing school: NAU
Thank you to my friends, my family, and my community for your endless love and support. We did this together. My strength and determination are guided by the wisdom of the matriarchs before me. My gratitude to you is infinite and endless. Thank you.

Linda Paloma Soto
University of Arizona
Master of Public Health, Health Services Administration
Thank you to my husband, family, and friends, especially Alex for year two graduating with me! Thank you to Joaquin, my grandparents, and the keke for being the reason why I went back to school and to Dr. Stephanie Carroll. Thank you to Gila River Health Care and the Caring House for bringing me home.

Heather Medicine Bear
Hawaii Pacific University
Masters Degree, Public Health
This educational journey has enriched my future. Thank you to my husband, my family and GRIC student services for your support.

Ashley Nourse
University of Texas at Arlington
Masters of Science, Human Resources Management
Desiree Lopez  
New Mexico School for the Arts  
Desiree Lopez has been published in the Santa Fe Reporter in 2019 for her photography work and more recently, has been published in an anthology of poems and artwork during the pandemic titled: “Everything Feels Recent When You’re Far Away.” She plans on taking a gap year before heading off to college next year to work on her artwork, which is inspired by and done with an anime style.

Audreyana C. Yucupicio  
Tohono O’odham Community College  
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts  
Congratulations on your accomplishment! We are so proud of you!!! You have become a strong, smart, and beautiful women. Continue to reach for the stars and accomplish all of your goals you have set for yourself. We will always be here for you! We love you… Papa, Grandma, Fawn and all of your siblings.

Mia Hernandez  
Arizona State University  
Bachelor of Applied Science, Applied Science (Graphic Information Technology)  
Thanks to everyone who helped me get here!

Kelcey Mosley  
Arizona State University  
Bachelor of Science, Exercise and Wellness  
Didn’t see your graduate? Or for those who were not able to submit their graduates information for the May 21 issue, we will run a second graduation section in the June 18, 2021 issue of the Gila River Indian News. Remember to fill out the 2021 Graduate Information Form and include a photograph of your graduate to ensure, that he/she, will be featured in the GRIN.

Mary Elias  
McCormick High School  
Continuing school: Cornell University  
Mary’s family is very proud of her and wishes her all the luck at Cornell University. We would like to thank Mary’s Gila River Outreach Advisor, Kenyen Thompson, for helping her along the way.
High School Graduates
Cont.

Laurna A. Begay
Presidio Vista High School, Farmington, NM
Continuing school: The University of Oregon

We are proud of the many things in life, but nothing beats being your parents. Love, mom and dad.

Taylor Duran
Coolidge High School
Continuing school: University of Arizona

Cont. Taylor Duran

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community remains committed to combating the COVID-19 pandemic through increased access to COVID-19 vaccines. On May 17, GRIC held a vaccination event at Rawhide Event Center from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. to provide boosters to those who received their first dose on April 26 where GRIC also introduced the Mobile Vaccination Unit (MVU), designed to bring GRIC also introduced the dose on April 26 where who received their first dose on April 26 where to community members directly to their homes. (MVU), designed to bring GRIC essential and recognized tribal members, all recipients must be at least 16 years of age or older. GRIC staff have been leaving door hangers at residences to inform households of the MVU times and locations, including Saturday, May 22 at the Mawid Subdivision in District 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and at St. Peter Indian Mission School on Sunday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in District 5.

On May 14, GRIC’s Health & Social Standing Committee made an official motion to expand the vaccine to federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential and enterprise employers including household members.

The MVU has been deployed in District 5, District 6 and most recently at locations in District 1 and District 4. GRIC staff have been leaving door hangers at residences to inform households of the MVU times and locations, including Saturday, May 22 at the Mawid Subdivision in District 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and at St. Peter Indian Mission School on Sunday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in District 5. The project proponent, Pinel County Public Works Department, has submitted a right-of-way (ROW) application to the BIA for roadway improvements on Hunt Highway and Arizona Farms Road, which would constitute the final phase of the Hunt Highway Improvement Project. The purpose of the project is for Pinel County to complete the final phase of their planned improvements along portions of Hunt Highway and Arizona Farms Road.

Project construction is anticipated to begin in January 2023 and be completed in approximately 8 months. No traffic detours would be required. Traffic delays would be short-term and temporary. The grant of easement for ROW, if approved by BIA, would formalize the alignments for both Hunt Highway and Arizona Farms Road within the Community.

The purpose of the project is for Pinel County to complete the final phase of the Hunt Highway Improvement Project, to expand Hunt Highway and Arizona Farms Road through the project area to match the new roadway alignment to improve line-of-sight safety concerns for drivers on Arizona Farms Road. The project would realign this traffic intersection and replace the stop-controlled intersection with a traffic light to improve traffic flow and safety.

As part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal agencies are required to consider the potential social and environmental impacts of proposed actions. This letter serves as the BIA’s invitation for comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding the proposed action. All comments received will become part of the public record associated with this proposed action. Accordingly, your comments (including your name and address) will be available for review by any person that wishes to review the record. At your request, we will withhold your contact information to the extent allowed by the Freedom of Information Act.

Please submit your comments to the following: Cecilia Baker, Superintendent - Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pinel Agency, P.O. Box 8, Sacaton, AZ 85147. Telephone: (520) 562-3326 or email at: cecilia.baker@bia.gov.

GRIC Rolls Mobile Vaccine Units to Districts, More Dates to Come

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

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Official Certified Election Results for May 4, 2021

The Gila River Hotels & Casinos made a donated in the amount of $25,000 to the Gila River Tribal Social Services – Residential Program for Youth, as part of the “Gila River Cares” program on Thursday, 13, 2021 at 9am. Photo courtesy Gila River Hotels & Casinos
AOPPYC is Bridging the Gap Brings Elders and Youth Together

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community youth and elders have embarked on a virtual sharing of knowledge and wisdom among the generations through the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council’s Bridging the Gap discussion series. Discussions are held for one hour on Saturdays throughout May, concluding on June 5.

Bridging the Gap is an intergenerational discussion series that allows elders to share their life experiences growing up in the Community and various topics, including language, culture, history, and more. This venture is a combined effort of the AOPPYC and the Community’s Council of Elders and Elderly Concerns Group. The goals are to provide space for healthy conversations between the two groups and address specific learning objectives from each party.

The goals for Community youth include learning the GRIC language and culture, discovering resources available to them and learning valuable life lessons from their elders. In contrast, the goals for elders are to provide healthy conversations for their mental health, social well-being, building connections in the Community, and learning to utilize technology like the iPads used for each session. “Our elders have a vast knowledge of our language, history, and life experience. You combine that with the energy, creativity and enthusiasm of our youth, and you have a powerful gathering,” said Michael Preston, AOPPYC Coordinator.

The May 15th Bridging the Gap discussion focused on the importance of introductions for the O’otham, formal language when addressing family members, marriage, and traditional patrilineal and patrilocal systems in O’otham culture. Jada Young found the discussions rich with teaching. “In my first sessions, we created a circle where the elders would say a phrase in O’otham, and then the youth would repeat it,” she explained. “It was so supportive and encouraging, and I learned how to pronounce many O’otham words better.”

AOPPYC President Susanna Osife described the discussions as “inspiring,” and said she would like to see more youth attend. “What I find most important with Bridging the Gap is how one generation of young people and another generation of our elders have come together to ensure that the quality of our culture, language, and community are taken care of and preserved,” said Osife.

Bridging the Gap only has a few sessions left. However, AOPPYC Coordinator Michael Preston shared that they are likely to host more in the future. The remaining Bridging the Gap discussions will be on May 22, 29, and June 5 at 1 p.m. For more information on how to attend as an elder or youth, please call 520-562-1866 or visit AOPPYC.org.

What’s the “Skinny” on Fat

As the Summer nears and we are scrambling to fit in our favorite Summer clothes, we are watching our diet, avoiding fats and exercising. So what fats are we supposed to avoid, are good, are bad etc.? Below you will find a crossword that may help in your quest to better understand some commonly used terms for fat that we deal with in our bodies and the food we eat. We encourage you to take some time and attempt this puzzle to help you navigate your way to the body we all aspire to have throughout the year. Please choose from the selections at the left of the page. If you have any questions regarding a nutrition, please call the Community Health Pastoral Program at 520-562-1000.

Student Services

College Scholarship

Deadline is June 1st

Application Documents Needed:
- Program of Study
- Official Class Schedule (if course selection is before June 1st)
- Acceptance Letter
- Enrollment Agreement (vocational school only)
- Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) (current within 90 days of deadline date)
- Official Transcripts (if previously attended college)
- Letter of Recommendation (3 letters required)
- Photo

Late applications will not be accepted.

Send Documents to:
PO BOX 97 Sackaton, AZ 85147

Any questions about going back to school
Email: student.services@girc.nsn.us
Call: (520) 562-3316

What: District 6 Community Visioning Meeting
When: 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Thursday May 27, 2021
Where: Zoom (https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87011294345) or dial in at (929) 205-6099 (Meeting ID 870 1129 4345)

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:
- Join the Meeting online at: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87011294345
- OR
- Dial in at (929) 205-6099 (Meeting ID 870 1129 4345)
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

July 26, 2021

ACTION SHEET
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, May 5, 2021, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:02 a.m.
INVOCATION
Provided by Councilman James De La Rosa
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 (9:29), Azrie Hogg; D2-Carol Schur
D3-Avery White; Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith; D5-James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Brian Davis; Sr. (9:05), 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 DISPENSE WITH RESOLUTION #4
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1, #3, AND #5; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #3 AND #5
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED
PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
1. GCCCRC 2021 2nd Quarter Report
Presenters: Jason Jones; Mark Clavell; Jocelyn Young; Nancy House; Anita Leon; Soyet Antone; Emiliano Morondos; Travis Jack; Guru Khalsa
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. DRAFT EDUCATION CODE
Presenters: Isaic Salcido; Naomi Bebo; Rebecca Hall
REPORT HEARD
3. Community Technology Center FY2020 / FY 2021 2nd Quarter Report
Presenter: Connie Jackson
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. COVID-19 Task Force Report
Presenters: COVID-19 Task Force
REPORT HEARD
5. Gila River Sand & Gravel Quarterly Report
FY 2021 Q1
Presenters: Michael Morago; Donna Stowell; Darin White; GRSC Board of Directors
ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council March 2021
(Essex Session)
Presenters: Gaming Commission Board; Melvin S. Sanderson
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #6, #7, #8
Presenters: Kenneth Manuel; Intern Oversight & Planning Committee
ITEM ACCEPTED AT REPORT #6
8. FY 2021 2nd Quarter Treasurer’s Report
(Essex Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller
ITEM ACCEPTED AT REPORT #6 RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Approving And Ratifying The Construction Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Digney York Associates, LLC For The Sheraton Room Remodel (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)
Presenters: David White; Jason Croxton; Casaudrea Wallace
APPROVED
2. A Resolution Rescinding Resolution GR-020-17 And Approving Tribal Land Assignment To Grant 6.442 Acres More Or Less Of Community Trust Land To Blackwater School For The Purpose Of Designing, Constructing, Operating And Maintaining The Blackwater Community School On The Land Assignment As Shown In Drawing No. SV-1 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; NRSRC and ESC concur)
Presenters: Norman Brewer; Corina Ortiz; Jagdish Sharma; Kimberly Antone
APPROVED
3. A Resolution Recognizing The Community’s Ownership Interest In The Buildings And Personal Property Situated On Community Trust Land In District Six And Operated By The Gila Crossing Day School, Inc. (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; NRSRC and ESC concur)
Presenter: Casaudrea Wallace
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. A Resolution Authorizing The Collection, Dissemination And Publication Of Non-Identifying Data For First Things First Gila River Indian Community Regional Need And Assets Report 2022 (H&SSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)
Presenter: Joshua Billison
ITEM DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Teresa Ysabella Munoz Into The Gila River Indian Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. A Resolution Approving A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. To Construct, Operate, Maintain, Operate, And Repair The Communication Facility, And To Sublease Any Portion Of The Leased Property Situated On Community Trust Land In 6.442 Acres More Or Less Community Trust Land To Blackwater School For The Purpose Of Designing, Constructing, Operating And Maintaining The Blackwater School On The Land Assignment As Shown In Drawing No. SV-1 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; EDSC and ESC concur)
Presenter: Casaudrea Wallace
APPROVED
7. A Resolution Approving A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. To Construct, Maintain, Operate, And Repair A Communication Facility And To Sublease Any Portion Of The Leased Premises To A Sublessee To Construct, Maintain, Operate, And Repair The Communication Facility Related Uses Pursuant To The Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations (EDSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Casaudrea Wallace
APPROVED
ORDINANCES
1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Amends Title 6 Chapter 17 Of The Gila River Indian Community Code, Enabling Section 6.1727 (D)-(F) To Prohibit Engine Brakes And Unruffled Exhaust Systems (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with amendments)
Presenters: Timothy Oliver; Bartley Harris; Rebeca Hall
APPROVED
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
1. Residential Lease On Allotted Land (LSC forwards to Council to schedule a Special Council meeting)
Presenters: Javier Ramos; Mandy Cisneros
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOR JUNE 4, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M.
NEW BUSINESS
1. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancy To The Community Council – (2) Council Seats (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council Seat Vacancies)
Presenter: Governor & Management Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (2) VACANCIES
2. Gila River Farms FY20 Financial Audit (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept)
Presenters: Wesley Benally; Cletus Shirley; Stephanie Saucedo-Manuel
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
3. Gila River Farms Board Of Director’s Declaration Of Vacancy – (2) Seats (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare the vacancies for the (2) seats)
Presenters: Gila River Farms Board of Directors
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (2) VACANCIES
4. Health & Social Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancy To The Community Council – (1) Council Seat (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare vacancy of one Council seat)
Presenters: Health & Social Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (1) VACANCY
5. Legislative Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancies (2) Council Seats (LSC forwards to Council to declare the 2 Council Seat Vacancies)
Presenter: Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (2) VACANCIES
6. Education Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancies (1) Council Seat (ESC forwards to Council to declare the vacancy)
Presenter: Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (1) VACANCY
7. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancy To The Community Council – (1) Council Chair (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare vacancy for (1) Council seat)
Presenter: Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (1) VACANCY
Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE (1) VACANCY
Agenda continues on page 13.
Join us Wednesday!
May 26, 2021
9 am – 4 pm
At District 3
Boys & Girls Club
Seed Farm Rd, Sacaton, AZ 85147

Eligibility Guidelines:
GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members, all federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential employees and their household members, and community enterprise employees and their household members. All individuals must be 16 years or older.

Join us Thursday!
May 27, 2021
9 am – 3 pm
At District 5
Service Center
3456 W Casa Blanca Rd, Bapchule, AZ 85121

Eligibility Guidelines:
GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members, all federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential employees and their household members, and community enterprise employees and their household members. All individuals must be 16 years or older.

Join us Friday!
May 28, 2021
9 am – 12 pm
At District 3
East Housing
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Eligibility Guidelines:
GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members, all federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential employees and their household members, and community enterprise employees and their household members. All individuals must be 16 years or older.

Join us Saturday!
May 29, 2021
9 am – 12 pm
At District 7
Pee Posh
8035 S 83rd Ave, Leaven Village, AZ 85339

Eligibility Guidelines:
GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members, all federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential employees and their household members, and community enterprise employees and their household members. All individuals must be 16 years or older.
Calling all GRIC Youth ages 13-21

SELF WELLNESS AND GROWTH

VIRTUAL GILA RIVER YOUTH CONFERENCE
June 26 and June 27, 2021 from 1:00pm — 5:00pm
Register at www.aoppyc.org
The third round of COVID-19 General Welfare checks mailed out on December 9, 2020 will be expiring soon! These checks void 180 days after the date of issue, which is Monday, June 7, 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

Also, please ensure your address is up to date for the 5th COVID-General Welfare payment going out on June 18th.

Thank you,
The Per Capita Office

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2020 COVID-19 General Welfare Checks

The third round of COVID-19 General Welfare checks mailed out on December 9, 2020 will be expiring soon! These checks void 180 days after the date of issue, which is Monday, June 7, 2021.

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Thank you,
The Per Capita Office

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Melva Charles has been a dedicated employee of the Gila River Indian Community for more than 40 years. Mrs. Charles decided it was time for her to retire on January 29, 2021. She has served the community since shortly after the inception of the Commodity Food Distribution Program in 1980. She has seen many changes within the program including staff and program locations. In 2007, the program decreased to 1 eligibility worker and that left only Melva. Melva never complained and was always on top of her work. If you ask her she usually knows every client’s eligibility status. She has fine tuned the application process over the years which made her work as well as everyone else’s job easier. Melva was married to the late Mr. Garold Charles and has a daughter, Melanie, and two grandchildren. We will all miss seeing Melva sitting at her desk at the Commodity Food Distribution Program Office and wish her the best in her retirement!

Submitted by
Scott Killian

People of Gila River Indian Community,
My name is Scott and I am a travel respiratory therapist. I live in Gilbert with my family. I also work at Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert. I have had the opportunity to care for your loved ones here over the past year at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital. I’d like to say thank you for this opportunity. Getting to know your patients has been a true pleasure. I won’t forget the patients that I took care of, the ones that passed from covid, and the ones who miraculously made it, and that was a great joy!

I’d also like to say thank you to the Hu Hu Kam staff. You have a great hospital and maybe someday if they decide to have a permanent respiratory department I can be part of the awesome team here.

Once again thank you and peace to you,
Scott Killian, RRT

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GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
Office of the Treasurer

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The American Legion Family
NATIONAL POPPY DAY*

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow Between the crosses row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarcely heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved, and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders fields.
Jr. Miss Gila River presents

MENTAL HEALTH & CULTURE

Join Gila River Royalty

May 27, 2021 at 6:00PM

as they discuss mental health issues and cultural significance. Special guests include Tribal Royalty around Arizona sharing their own stories on these important topics.

Also, please submit questions for our royalty and guests to answer. This will be a safe space for all. Hope to see you there!

Register today @:
https://bit.ly/3v1XfSb

Or scan QR code:
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Condition</th>
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<td>2015 FORD F150</td>
<td>One of a Kind!</td>
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<td>2019 FORD FUSION HYBRID</td>
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**Payment** based on 72-month term, 4.9% APR, or 72-month term, TIAA. Note: all customers qualify based on approved credit. Rate subject to change at time of purchase. Not all vehilces qualify. Ask manager for details.

**Monthly savings** payment up to $1,500. **Cannot be combined with any other offers. Not all buyers will qualify. Subject to bank or other lender institutional approval.**